

# Penny Hot Springs Management Plan

November 2019



## Acknowledgments

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A special thank you to the Steering Committee Members for their time and dedication to the planning process and the development of this document.

Bill Argeros or Stacey Bernot - Crystal Caucus

Dave Johnson - Redstone Community Association

Jeff Bier - Crystal Valley resident

John Armstrong - Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association

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Sarah-Jane Johnson (or Andrea Stewart) - Carbondale Chamber of Commerce

Zuleika Pevec - Penny Hot Springs user

OST Board liaison: Wayne Ives

## Table of Contents

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<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. History</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3. Existing Conditions</b>	<b>14</b>
3.1 Acquisition and Management Background	14
3.2 Location and Surrounding Context	14
3.3 Site Description	16
3.4 Ecological Resources and Biodiversity	16
3.5 Existing Uses	16
3.6 Easements, Rights of Way, Decrees and Other Rights:	18
3.7 Prior Plans and Related Studies:	19
<b>4. Planning Process and Public Involvement</b>	<b>21</b>
4.1 Baseline Data Collection and Public Input	21
Process Overview and Time Line	22
4.2 Plan Development	23
4.3 Draft Plan Input	23
<b>5. Management Actions</b>	<b>25</b>
5.1 CDOT Renewable Lease Agreement	26
5.2 Rules, Guidelines and Environmental Ethics Signage and Outreach	27
5.3 Interpretive Signage	27
5.4 Pullout Organization	28
5.5 River Access Improvements and Bank Stabilization	29
5.6 Climber Parking for the Narrows	30
5.7 Work with CDOT on Delineating a “No Passing Zone”	30
5.8 Potential Future Acquisitions	30
5.9 Potential Future Amenities	32
<b>Appendix</b>	
Public Survey Results	33
Public Safety Call Data	54
Steering Committee Worksheets	57

The Penny Hot Springs Open Space Management Plan is a product of Pitkin County Open Space and Trails.



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## PITKIN COUNTY OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pitkin County Open Space and Trails Board of Trustees is to acquire, preserve, maintain and manage open space properties for multiple purposes including, but not limited to, recreational, wildlife, agricultural, scenic and access purposes; and to acquire, preserve, develop, maintain and manage trails for similar purposes.

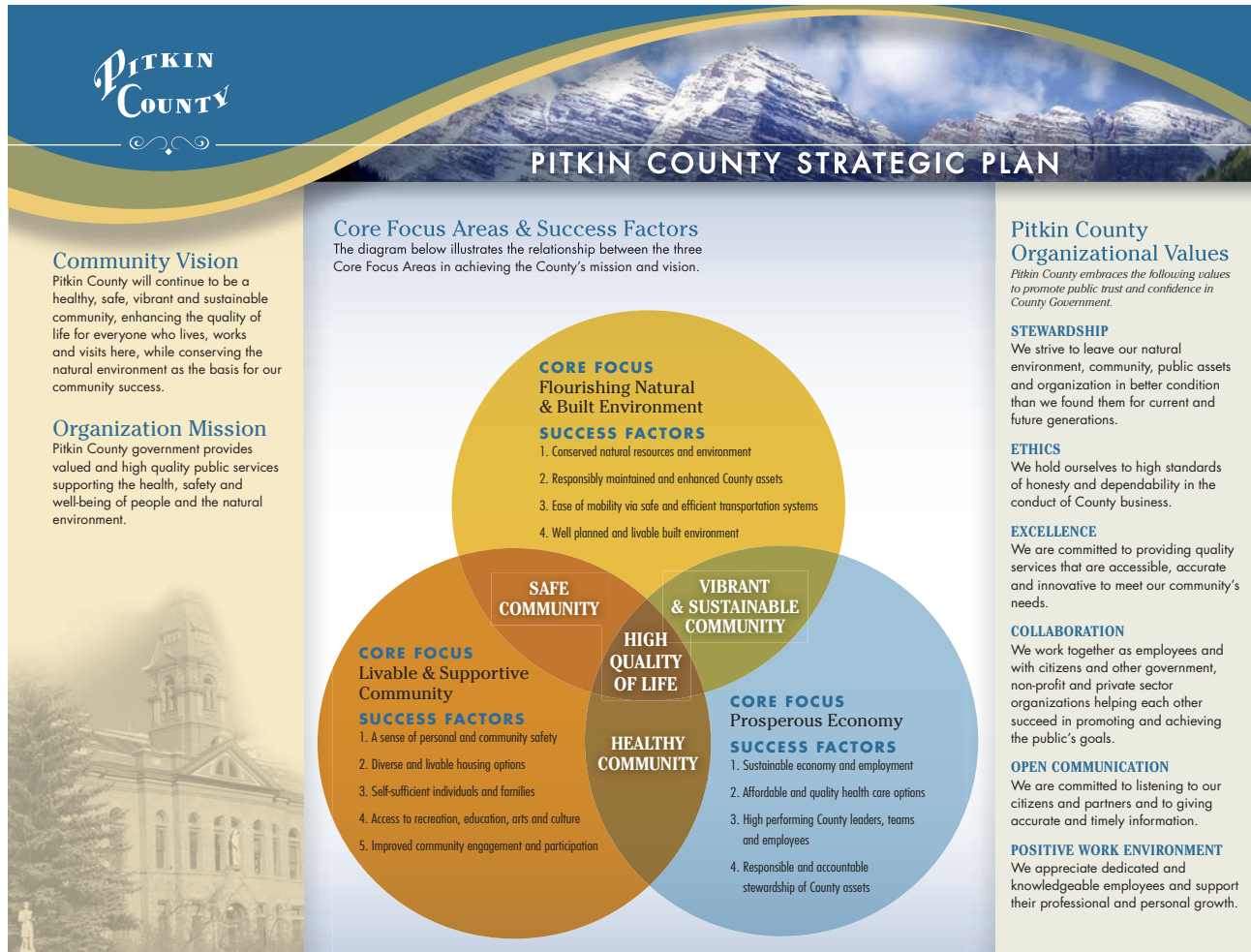
The Pitkin County Home Rule Charter provision authorizing the Open Space and Trails Program defines open space and trails as follows:

**“Open Space” shall be defined as primarily undeveloped lands and waters which meet one or more of the following criteria: Within public scenic view planes; bounding or within urbanized areas; incorporating or protecting significant wildlife habitat; preserving historic agricultural and ranching activities; protecting riparian or wetlands areas; protecting other public lands from the impacts of development, and preserving cultural, historic, and archaeological resources lying within properties which are otherwise acquired for their customary Open space characteristics.**

**“Trails” shall be defined as access ways, either separate from or within County and State Road Rights-of-Way meeting one or more of the following criteria: preserving historic routes of ingress and egress to public lands and waterways; providing access to and from recreational or urban destinations; providing transportation or recreational opportunities throughout the Roaring Fork Watershed.**



# PITKIN COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER AND 2011 PITKIN COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN



The Pitkin County Strategic Plan identifies three core Focus Areas: “Flourishing Natural and Built Environment,” “Livable and Supportive Community” and “Prosperous Economy.” The goal is for the three Focus Areas to work together to achieve the county’s vision and mission. The Penny Hot Springs Management Plan supports the Strategic Plan in various aspects:

## FLOURISHING NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

### ***Success Factor 1: Conserved natural resources and environment***

Identified Actions: managing and improving riparian areas, recreational opportunities and scenic values.

### ***Success Factor 2: Responsibly maintained and enhanced county assets***

Identified Actions: maintaining county properties in a sustainable manner with context sensitive infrastructure enhancements, user education and interpretation to encourage proper use and care of public lands and assets.

## LIVABLE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

### ***Success Factor 4: Access to recreation, education, arts and culture***

Identified Actions: providing improved access to a unique recreational asset within the county in addition to educational and nature appreciation opportunities in the Crystal River Valley.



## 1. Introduction

Penny Hot Springs, in the Crystal River Valley, is a popular natural hot springs location with a long history of public use. Every year after spring runoff, people rebuild the pools that provide locals and travelers a place to soak in a spectacular setting. The continuously evolving hot springs pools along the west bank of the Crystal River are located partially on Open Space and Trails property and partially on Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) right of way. The parking pullout along the highway and the downstream pools are within CDOT's right of way, which extends to the middle for the river. The pullout provides parking for multiple uses, including: the hot springs, climbing on the opposite side of the highway, watching wildlife at Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve and general highway traffic. This plan represents a collaborative approach to managing increased use of the area, involving both CDOT and Pitkin County Open Space properties. The plan reflects guidance from the Penny Hot Springs Steering Committee

### Vision Statement:

*To protect and preserve the natural environment and future use of Penny Hot Springs in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner that is compatible with the location's natural setting and that encourages respect and stewardship.*

The vision for Penny Hot Springs, as defined by the Steering Committee, will be used to guide the management of the area.

### PENNY HOT SPRINGS OPEN SPACE QUICK FACTS

**Acquisition Date:** 1991 County Acquisition, 1999 Adoption into Open Space and Trails (The Penny Hot Springs parcel has been managed as part of the Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve)

**Funding Partners:** None

**Parcel Size:** 0.1 acres

**Open Space Values:** River Access, Recreation and View Plane Preservation

**Easements/Encumbrances:** None

**Public Records:** BOCC Resolution 41990 for Acquisition #90-39 ; BOCC Resolution 434491 designating Penny Hot Springs as Pitkin County Open Space and Trails Property #99-112.



A rickety bridge crosses the Crystal River at Penny Hot Springs in this undated, historic photo. A bathhouse is situated on the far bank next to the path leading down to the hot springs from what is now Hwy. 133. Source: Unknown.

## 2. History

Penny Hot Springs has apparently been a hot spot for Crystal River Valley visitors pretty much since its discovery well over a century ago.

The springs, originally a collection of thermal pools that include what is today known as Penny Hot Springs along Hwy. 133, drew the native Utes and then early pioneers. Successive generations of bathers, lured by the curative powers of the soak, the scenery or perhaps just the scene, have sought out the soothing waters.

The Ute People were early users of the mineral-laden hot springs that dot what is now Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve and the riverbank. Witnesses as late as 1950 could recall Ute encampments near Penny Hot Springs along the Crystal years before.<sup>1</sup> A nomadic people, the Utes spent their summers in the valley in the pursuit of plentiful fish and game.<sup>2</sup>

With the expulsion of the Utes from Colorado and a flood of prospectors and early settlers into the Crystal Valley, Hot Springs, as it was simply called, became a popular spa at the turn of the century. An 1884 map of Pitkin County notes the spot prominently along Rock Creek, later renamed the Crystal River. That same year, Pitkin County Assessor William Clark left Aspen for Rock Creek with the intention of assessing developed property in the valley. He noted plentiful game and a crowd of prospectors at the springs, where he “enjoyed a good bath” and the hospitality of landowner Mr. Penny, who was planning to build a hotel at the site.<sup>3</sup>

By the late 1880s, Hot Springs was served by wagon road and a stagecoach stop. Eventually, travelers could ride the Crystal River Railroad to the spa, where Dan Penny’s guest house and dining establishment were built close to the track.<sup>4</sup> There was a bathhouse at the river at Granite Spring (today’s Penny Hot Springs). Dan Penny’s namesake spring was out in the meadow.

In June 1889, news from Carbondale included this tidbit in the Aspen Daily Times: “An excursion party of eight

1 “Some Facts and Conjectures About the Crystal River Valley in Colorado,” Alvin Foote, A & T Co., New York, 1950, p 33.

2 “Marble Colorado City of Stone,” Duane Vandenbusche and Rex Myers, Golden Bell Press, Denver, Colo. 1970, p 4.

3 “The Assessor on the War Path,” Aspen Times Weekly, June 7, 1884, p 1.

4 “The Crystal River Pictorial,” Dell McCoy, Sundance Limited, Denver, 1972, p 46.





Rail service once chugged through what is now Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve, offering a stop at Hot Springs for travelers who made this early spa in the Crystal River Valley their destination.

Source: Unknown.

couples visited Penny Hot Springs Sunday. The principal event of the day was the smashing of a buggy wheel.”

One famous visitor was Doc Holliday, a gunslinger, gambler and dentist, who traveled to Penny Hot Springs in the summer of 1887, hoping to find a cure for his consumption. He stayed there, at a cabin owned by Alexander and Eva Harony, for a few months before returning to Glenwood Springs, where he died that November.<sup>5</sup>

Ranching largely supplanted the early flurry of mining in the Crystal Valley and by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, Penny Hot Springs apparently succumbed to the quiet years up the Crystal.

Joseph Grange acquired the meadow now called Filoha in the 1940s, and raised cattle and potatoes there. At that time, the Grange holdings included lands above Marble as well as Rock Bottom Ranch and lands near Emma. Kelly Grange inherited Filoha while his brother, Emil, ended up with the Emma property, according to the 2004 Filoha Meadows Management Plan. Kelly Grange’s holdings included an easement for use of the heated spring water along the roadway – an asset that would become a thorn in his family’s side.

Steve Child of Old Snowmass remembered walking to the springs from a cabin at Avalanche Ranch with his family in about 1955. He would have been 8 years old. The narrow, dirt road had virtually no traffic, he said, and the spring was enclosed in a wood structure, Child recalled. The tub in the building had water straight from the spring, and there was a bar of soap. “It was really hot. You had to get in really slowly,” he said.<sup>6</sup>

The 1960s brought hippies to the hot springs. A concrete bathhouse, reportedly built by the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce, held a modest concrete pool filled with water that was “hell for hot,” according to Carbondale resident John Hoffman. “It was a time of love. We’d get eight people in there, but it probably fit four.” From the bathhouse, the water flowed into two successively cooler pools dug into the bank before it flowed into the river.<sup>7</sup>

Hoffman was a student at Colorado Mountain School’s Spring Valley campus in 1968. “We’d drive down from Spring Valley, soak into the night and drive back. It was just a glorious experience,” he said.

The pullout along the highway was often full of cars, particularly in the evenings, according to Hoffman, who

5 “Doc Holliday: A Family Portrait,” Karen Holliday Tanner, University of Oklahoma Press, 1998, p 216.

6 Interview: Steve Child, Aspen, July 22, 2019.

7 Telephone interview: John Hoffman, July 10, 2019.





A photo in the Aspen Today newspaper depicts the scene at Penny Hot Springs before the site was bulldozed in 1972.

recalled sneaking across the river to a spring in the meadow that was lined with marble slabs. It was perhaps, the original Penny Hot Springs.

Carbondale resident Laurie Loeb recalled hot springs etiquette back in the day meant you could pull up and honk your horn, and parties already using the bathhouse knew they had 15 minutes before they had to relinquish the pool. The unwritten rule fell by the wayside as more people began using the springs, she said.<sup>8</sup>

The increasing use apparently took its toll. Detractors of the scene objected to filthy conditions (painted on the side of the bathhouse was the message, “please do not urinate right here”) and the naked sunbathers lounging outside, but perhaps none expressed their concern more eloquently than Mrs. Grange, in a 1971 handwritten letter to Lamont Kincaid, then-sanitarian for Aspen and Pitkin County. She charged hot springs users with failing miserably in their promise to clean up conditions at the site and curb the public nudity.

“The nudes are running rampant and very definitely in the majority...,” she wrote. “Even more disgusting are some men, obviously nourishing their sick minds, who spend much of their spare time (not for the hot baths) mingling among the nude women.

“If the sanitation department is really in the interest of sanitation, I must say it could start immediately cleaning up what must surely be the filthiest joint in Colorado, physically and morally,” she wrote.

The Granges, who resided in a house upstream from the hot springs, would remain central figures in the tempest over the springs for years to come and at least initially, at Kincaid’s urging, would take matters into their own hands to resolve the issues.

There was an effort to upgrade facilities at the springs, providing trash collection and toilet facilities, for example. It was a complete flop, Kincaid would later tell Pitkin County commissioners. The toilet was crushed and tossed in the river within 10 days of its installation in an act of vandalism that also included the dumping of tar, oil and dead animals at the site, he said. A sheriff’s report indicated that, sometime on the night of Sept. 27, 1971, several gallons of roof pitch were dumped into the bathhouse and garbage was dumped atop the pitch, which was oozing into the river. The portable toilet was destroyed and scattered.

“From that time on conditions continued to deteriorate, with numerous complaints and incidents of maggot infestation in trash, the accumulation of human feces, used sanitary napkins, dirty throw-away diapers, used prophylactics, undergarments, broken bottles, etc.,” wrote Kincaid, whose salary was paid in part by the Colorado State Health Department. “Again, the state and local Health Departments warned that such

8 Interview: Laurie Loeb, Carbondale, April 12, 2019.



conditions could not be allowed to continue, but they did continue.”

Kincaid’s March 1972 letter to commissioners came in defense of the destruction of Penny Hot Springs less than a month earlier. Hot springs aficionados were outraged and demanded answers. The controversy boiled over into the county commissioners’ chambers and the pages of local newspapers. The Aspen Times decried the destruction of a “priceless natural treasure” in an editorial.

With representatives of the Sheriff’s Office on hand to keep the peace, Kelly Grange had the bathhouse and outdoor pools bulldozed on Feb. 28, 1972. The action came after Grange received a letter from Kincaid charging him, as the responsible party, with several violations related to sewage and refuse disposal. Kincaid ordered Grange to cease the violations and “achieve total abatement of the conditions on or before March 10, 1972” or face fines that could exceed \$1,000 per day plus possible jail time. The abatement was to be temporary, the sanitarian advised Grange, so that the springs could be reopened when it became feasible to provide adequate facilities.

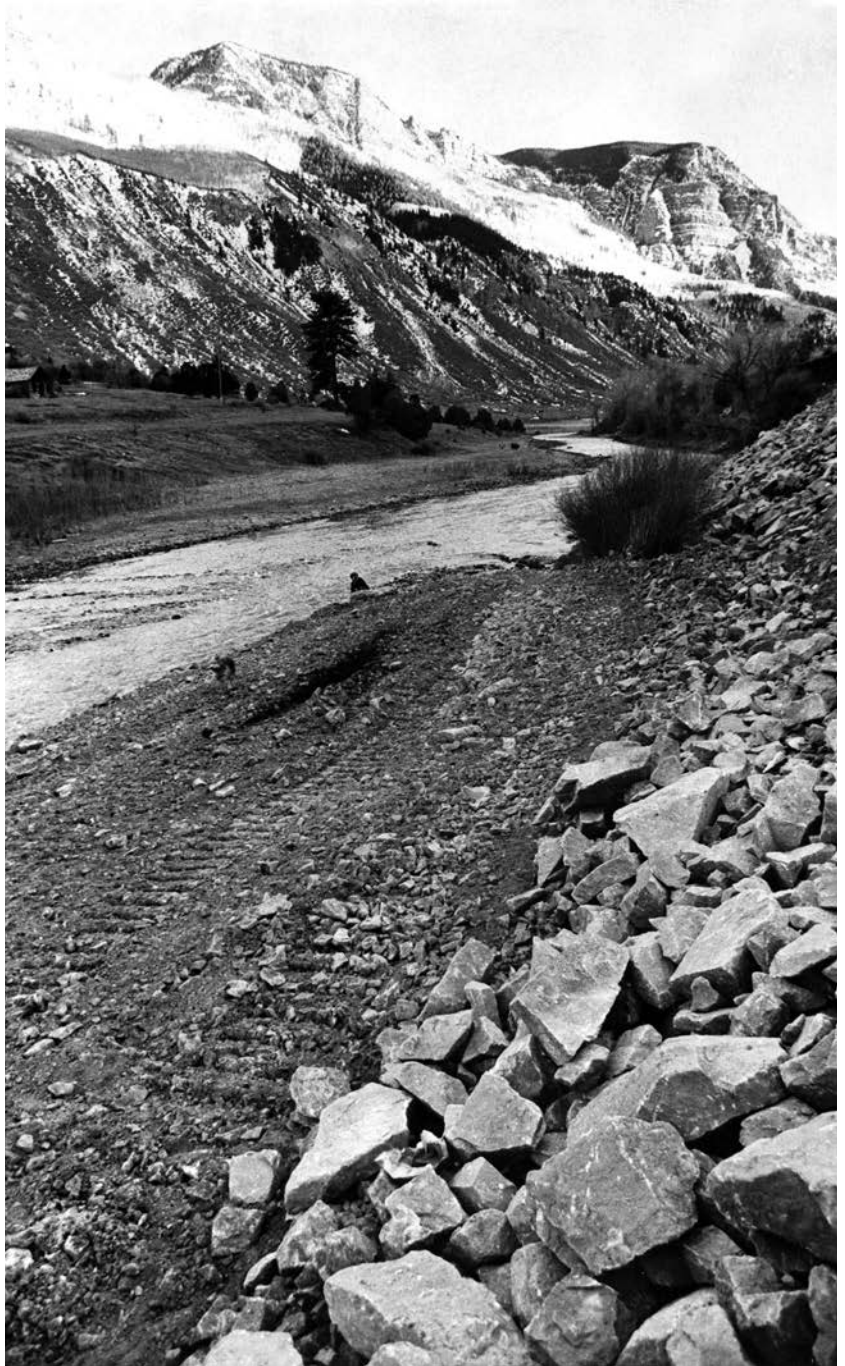
The reshaping of the landscape eliminated the bathhouse and the pools below it. In their place, boulders, rock and dirt extended to the river’s edge. The imprint of bulldozer tracks remained on the flattened riverbank.

In the aftermath of the destruction, Kincaid reiterated his concerns about the health hazards presented by the hot springs. Other problems at the springs, he said, included shootings, vandalism and a “severe” traffic safety issue – coal truck drivers crossing the double center line on the highway in order to glimpse the “cuties in the river.”<sup>9</sup>

Grange, to his credit, continued to offer 2 acres of adjacent land to rebuild the springs if the county or some other entity would assume responsibility for the site. In a 1972 letter to the editor, Mr. and Mrs. Grange noted they had not destroyed the springs, which still flowed somewhere within the rubble.

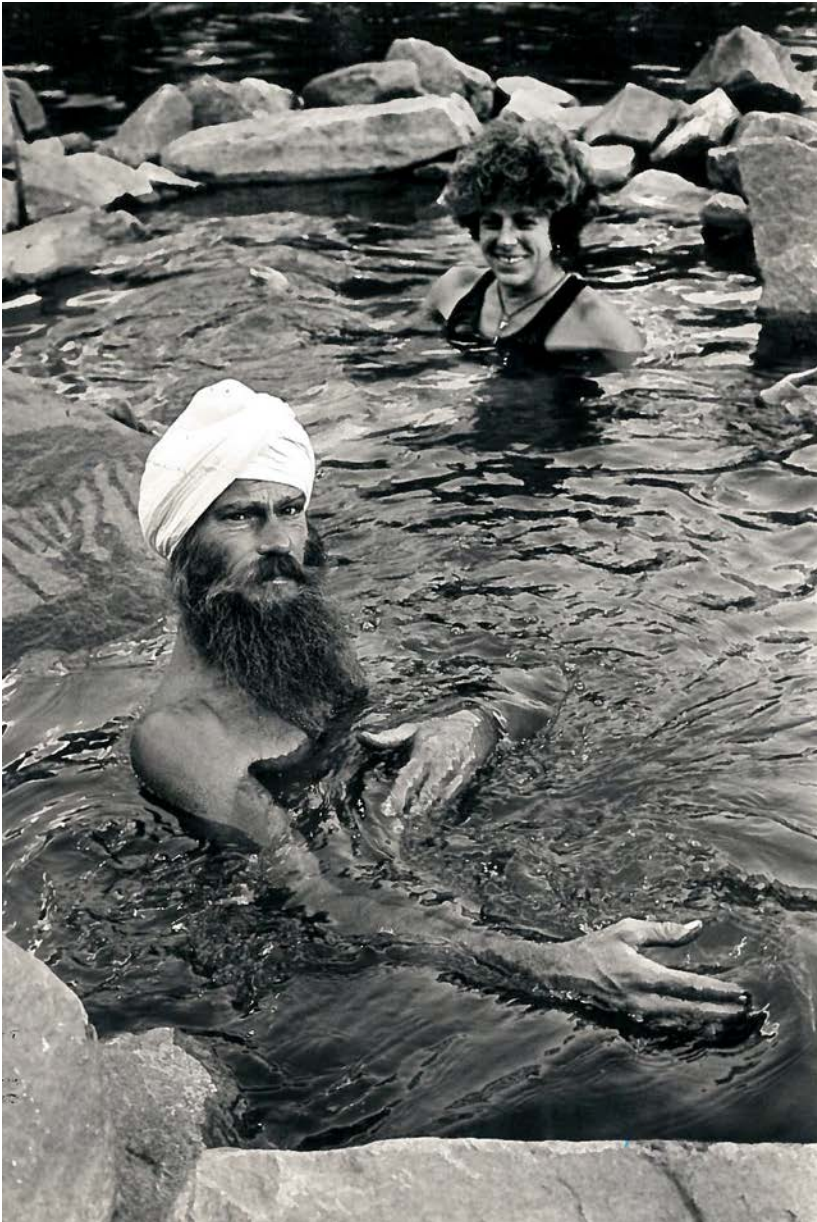
“The only things that are gone are the unnatural, manmade bathhouse, the ‘cess-pools’ and the garbage, except for several dozen discarded cans and bottles still residing across the river on our property,” they wrote.

Kincaid observed efforts to recreate a bathing pool in a May 1972 stop at the spot and new pools were evidently shaped in the rubble over time, even as hot springs backers began collecting donations to build new facilities at Penny Hot Springs. A group calling itself the Redstone Hot Springs Foundation circulated petitions



The bulldozing of Penny Hot Springs in 1972 took out the bathhouse and two shallow, outdoor soaking pools. Source: Aspen Historical Society, Aspen Times Collection.





Roy Rickus and Laurie Loeb at Penny Hot Springs in a photo published in *The Denver Post* after Rickus was charged with indecent exposure. Source: Vintage Photos

urging Pitkin County to reopen the springs through any means possible. A design for a steel-frame, icosahedron-shaped bathhouse took shape.

A separate petition, asking commissioners not to reopen the hot springs without an agency established to regulate the site and enforce the rules, was also circulated. More than 115 residents of the Crystal Valley signed it.<sup>10</sup>

Kincaid was dismissed by the county and City of Aspen in 1973 for reasons unrelated to the hot springs, escaping the spotlight when the battle over the springs reheated in the 1980s with a new, striking figure rising from the steam to defend the beloved springs.

Conflicts between the Grange family and the throngs of nude bathers who were once again making use of Penny Hot Springs – this time with no bathhouse to conceal any of the activity – were back in the headlines by the mid-1980s. In 1987, rancher Erwin Grange, Kelly’s son, requested the highway department lease or sell him the land in the Hwy. 133 right of way so he could close the springs. The department declined.<sup>11</sup>

Grange also sought redress through the criminal code, urging authorities to arrest nude bathers for indecent exposure and summoning deputies for trespass violations. Sheriff Bob Braudis refused to charge nude bathers with indecent exposure based on input from the deputy district attorney, who said the Granges couldn’t claim to be bothered by the nudity given the distance from their house to the hot springs – roughly a quarter-mile. The Granges took their case to the DA, who overruled his underling and

said the offenders could be prosecuted if strong evidence were presented.<sup>12</sup>

Roy Rickus, self-appointed curator of the hot springs, was photographed by the Granges on two dates in August 1987 and found himself facing two counts of indecent exposure filed by the Pitkin County DA’s office for “knowingly exposing his genitals” to the view of another person. He was naked, but for his trademark turban.

Rickus ran health food stores in Aspen back in the 1960s and early ’70s, and then operated one in Carbondale called Roaring Fork Crystal and Co. He was a frequent visitor to the hot springs – taking a dip as often as four times a day, he said.<sup>13</sup> He remains a Crystal Valley resident.

“That was my social life for a while,” he said. “I’d go down there at night and turn it down to sleeping weather.” (That meant making the pool cooler.)

<sup>10</sup> “Petitions seek control of hot spring,” *The Aspen Times*, July 26, 1973, p 11-A.

<sup>11</sup> “Highway department won’t lease hot springs property,” *The Aspen Times*, Sept. 17, 1987, p 18-A.

<sup>12</sup> “Hot springs incidents spur indecent exposure charges,” *The Aspen Times*, Sept. 24, 1987, p 16-A.

<sup>13</sup> Interview: Roy Rickus and Laurie Loeb, May 10, 2019, Carbondale.

Rickus spent considerable time adjusting the mechanics of the riverside pool, arranging rocks to force hot water up from below and using a bucket to scoop cold water in from the river before perfecting a system of turning a rock to let in more or less cold water from the river. Crowds were not a problem, he recalled. “I’d crank it up to where no one else could stand it.”

Rickus, who was 45 at the time, fought the criminal charges, which also included a count of trespassing for allegedly crossing over a boundary in the river and onto Grange property. A second man was also charged with trespassing, but was acquitted. At the time, Rickus contended the photographs of him constituted an invasion of his privacy.<sup>14</sup> He maintained it was “sacrilege” to wear a swimsuit in the pool.

The Granges complained that the springs regained popularity as a nudist hangout with publicity over the Rickus case and they posted signs on the opposite riverbank. One was a warning against trespassing. The other read, “NOTICE – Do Not Expose Your Nude Body To The View Of This Property.”

Carbondale’s Loeb laughed about the sign. There was no one across the river to see the nudity, she said. Except for elk and bighorn sheep, Rickus added.<sup>15</sup>

Loeb, who remains friends with Rickus, found herself immersed in the nudity debate when The Denver Post picked up the story of Rickus’ indecent exposure case and published a photo of Rickus, submerged up to the bottom of his flowing beard, at the hot springs. A grinning Loeb (clearly wearing a swimsuit) is visible soaking in the background.

Loeb was active with the Redstone Hot Springs Foundation, which sought donations to make improvements at the springs. Among the suggested resolutions was piping the spring water up to 1,000 feet downriver and creating a new pool on Forest Service property.

Shortly before Rickus went to trial on the indecent exposure charges in April 1988, Penny Hot Springs was again in the headlines after an unknown party or parties rolled large boulders into the soaking pool – an act that would have required heavy machinery. “Penny Hot Springs rocked by massive sabotage,” screamed a March 1988 headline in The Valley Journal after the latter incident. “The spring survived but now the pool’s only big enough for two skinny people or one fat one,” the Carbondale newspaper reported. Volunteers rallied to move the boulders out of the way. Despite predictable finger-pointing, no culprit was ever identified.

A jury, however, convicted Rickus on both counts of indecent exposure. A judge subsequently threw out the verdict because the prosecution had failed to prove one of the elements of the offense – that Rickus was aware he was being observed when he bathed nude.<sup>16</sup>

Rickus, meanwhile, was already embroiled in the next round of the fight. Edwin Grange had filed a water right application with the state in an attempt to gain complete control of the hot springs. He intended to pipe the water from the highway right-of-way onto his own land. Loeb and the Friends group were attempting to raise funds to mount a legal challenge and assist Rickus, who also filed a water right application as “trustee for



Signs posted across the river from Penny Hot Springs addressed trespassing and nudity. Source: The Valley Journal file photo, Sopris Sun

14 “Rickus will fight exposure charges,” The Aspen Times, Oct. 15, 1987, p 7-A.

15 Interview: Roy Rickus and Laurie Loeb, May 10, 2019, Carbondale.

16 “Hot springs guru beats nudity rap,” The Valley Journal, April 28, 1988, p 3.



the users of the spring.”<sup>17</sup> Several other Crystal Valley residents filed protests to the Grange application.

In June 1988, the Colorado Department of Highways further muddled the water by announcing it would sell the property on which the springs were located, giving a government right of first refusal to acquire the right-of-way to preserve or enhance the site. An adjacent landowner – the Granges – would have second right of refusal to buy the land at market value, the highway department announced.<sup>18</sup> The Friends group began lobbying Pitkin County to buy the springs.

In September 1988, the anti-springs faction apparently sprang once again into action. Road tar was dumped into the spring. “Long strings of black and brown gunk stretched across the oblong spring, then flowed downriver like clumps of rotten kelp,” The Valley Journal reported.

Two months later, Pitkin County commissioners agreed in principal to purchase Penny Hot Springs but not administer the property. They asked the Friends for a detailed management plan to address the Grange family’s concerns. The group had already proposed a no-nudity policy; installation of a grouted, rock pool; screening and signage; plus moving the springs either 200 or 500 feet downriver.

With no action from the county to acquire the springs a year after the highway department offered up the site, the department granted Erwin Grange a utility permit, allowing the rancher to enclose the spring and pipe the water across the river to his land. The county and the friends were caught off-guard.<sup>19</sup> Erwin Grange charged the county with dragging its feet. Utility permit in hand, he tried to fence off the site but the fence was destroyed twice in one week.

In April 1990, two years after Rickus beat the nudity rap, county commissioners balked at the Friends’ proposal for a full-fledged recreation area at the springs. Commissioners agreed the spot should remain in the public domain, however, and that the county should acquire the land and the water rights for low-key use. Commissioner Collette Penne was dispatched to the next Highway Commission meeting, where, she said, “I’ll be wearing layers and layers of clothes.”<sup>20</sup>

Commissioners approved a resolution on April 24, 1990 to acquire the Crystal River Hot Springs and a portion of the Hwy. 133 right-of-way from the Department of Highways. Through the acquisition, the county resolved to address concerns of health and safety, public nudity and possible trespass on adjacent property, as well as traffic safety on the highway, according to the resolution.

A month later, Erwin and Linda Grange sprang their final surprise, selling their Crystal River property to Chrysler Vice President Gerald Greenwald. The Granges bought a new spread between Delta and Grand Junction, according to news reports at the time, and retired from the hot springs spotlight.

Greenwald, meanwhile, eventually built a house in Aspen and had no conflicts with hot springs users. He sold the 145-acre Hot Springs Ranch, now part of Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve, to Pitkin County Open Space and Trails in 2001. The county had completed acquisition of the hot springs in 1991 and folded the property into the Open Space and Trails program in 1999.



One of the headlines of the day in The Valley Journal.

17 “Erwin Grange filing for right on spring,” The Valley Journal, April 21, 1988, p 2.

18 “Highway honcho on Penny Hot Spring,” The Valley Journal, June 2, 1988, p 5.

19 “Utility permit threatens to shut down Penny Hot Springs,” The Valley Journal, Aug. 3, 1989, p. 7.

20 “Commissioners support unmanaged hot springs,” The Valley Journal, April 5, 1990, p 4.





Roy Rickus and Laurie Loeb in 2019 after providing their historical perspective on the Hot Springs use in the 1980s.



## 3. Existing Conditions

### 3.1 Acquisition and Management Background

The 0.1-acre triangular Penny Hot Springs Open Space parcel was acquired by the County in 1991 and adopted by the Open Space and Trails program in 1999. The property was originally purchased from CDOT through the County's general fund, prior to the establishment of the Open Space and Trails program, to resolve concerns related to hot springs use.

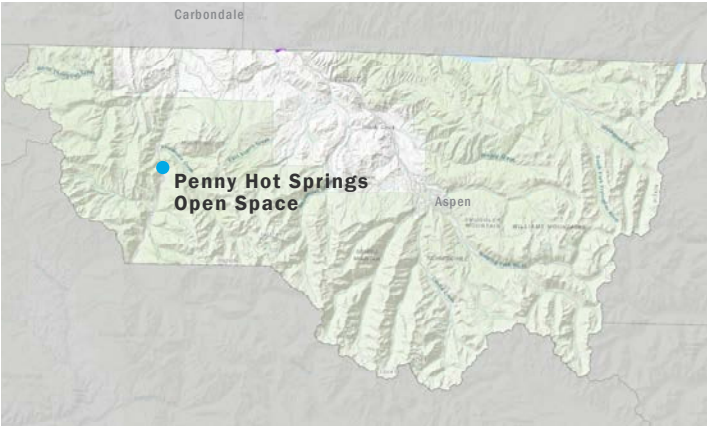
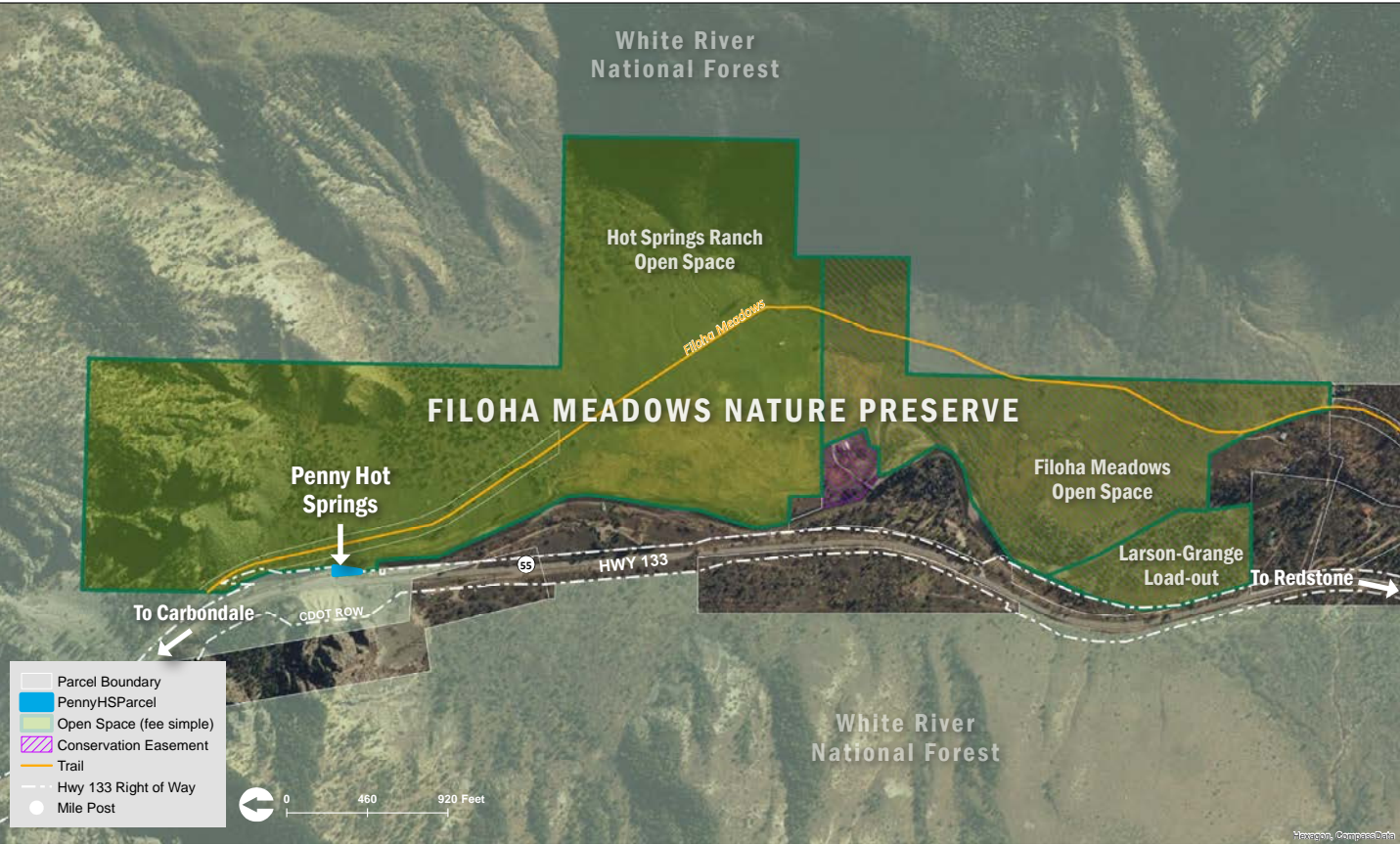
Prior to the current plan, the Penny Hot Springs parcel has been managed as a part of the larger Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve, which encompasses the Hot Springs Ranch parcel and the Penny Hot Springs parcel, totaling approximately 185 acres. The 2008 Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve Management Plan identifies the Penny Hot Springs along the west bank of the river as the "Visitor Use Area" within the preserve, allowing for year-round public access and use of the hot springs. The Penny Hot Springs pulloff is the only place for vehicle parking to view Filoha and offers the only river access within the larger preserve.

### 3.2 Location and Surrounding Context

Penny Hot Springs is located on the west bank of the Crystal River along the east side of Hwy. 133, just north of mile marker 55. The property is approximately 3 miles north, or downstream, from Redstone and 12 miles south of Carbondale. The continuously evolving, naturally fed hot springs pools straddle the Penny Hot Springs Open Space property and Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) right of way (ROW). The eastern boundary of the property borders Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve. The White River National Forest extends up the hillside to the west, opposite the highway from the hot springs.



The pulloff, just before mile marker 55 along Highway 133, is often full of cars, with users accessing the hot springs as well as the climbing area on the public lands to the west.



Location within Pitkin County.



### 3.3 Site Description

The Crystal River and hot springs pools are at elevation 6,900 feet, separated vertically from the highway pullout, approximately 20 feet down a steep and eroded hillside. A primary access trail exists, connecting the CDOT pullout to the riverbed and the primitive pools. Multiple other user-created routes also exist, linking the highway pullout to the river level.

The CDOT pullout currently accommodates approximately 21 vehicles. There is no existing signage or other improvements there currently. No formalized parking layout exists and vehicles are often parked in various configurations.

### 3.4 Ecological Resources and Biodiversity

The mineral-laden hot spring waters flow year-round from a spring that surfaces on the Penny Hot Springs property. Due to the property's small size and proximity to the highway, there have been no wildlife- or vegetation-specific studies for the area.

### Water Quality

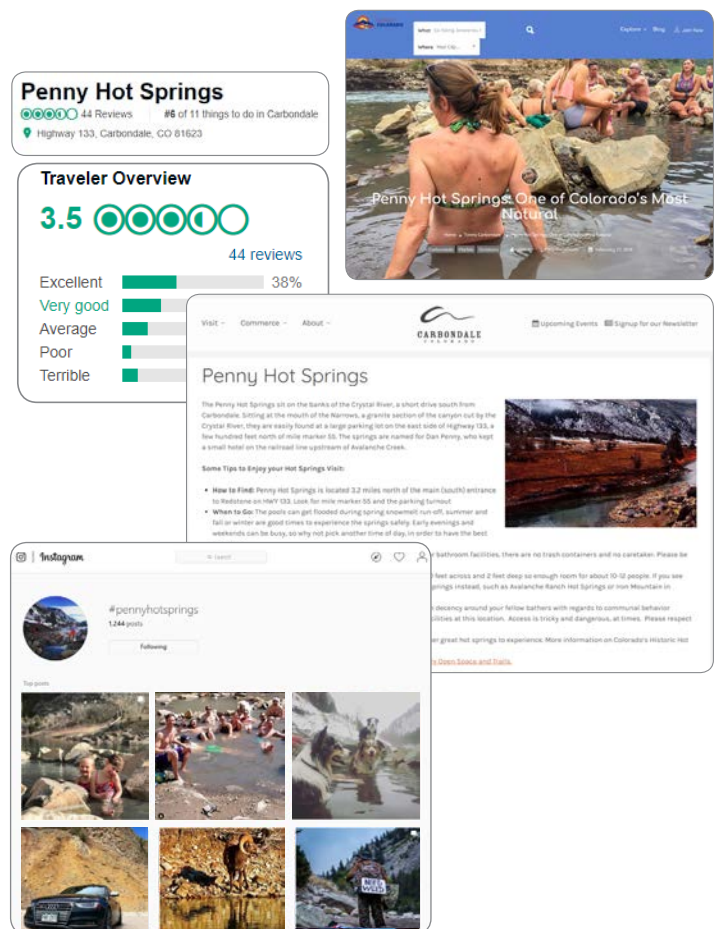
Pitkin County Environmental Health does not have specific water quality data for this area. Because the Crystal River is a flowing source, it is resource prohibitive to collect water quality data for the Hot Springs. Additionally, it is challenging to assign the responsibility of a sampling result or impact in flowing water conditions. Samples collected at the springs may be indicative of an upstream condition rather than what is taking place on-site.

### 3.5 Existing Uses

The hot springs pools are continuously reshaped by users who frequent the area. On average, the pools are approximately 15 to 20 feet across and 2 feet deep. During busy times, the area may see as many as 40 people along the riverbank. Users representing a wide range of ages and interests, from those seeking a relaxing, moonlit soak to those playing in the river with children. Use of the springs takes place year-round, depending on river flows from year to year. Other river-focused uses include fishing, picnicking and generally enjoying the natural environment and views.



The mineral laden hot springs surfaces above the evolving pools.



The use of the hot springs has continued to grow in popularity. A quick Google search of "Penny Hot Springs" demonstrates that the secret is out.







Like many recreational areas around the county, Penny Hot Springs has seen increased use over time. With the availability of information on the internet and social media, the local secret is out: Penny Hot Springs is a place to visit. The unregulated, easily accessible springs have been promoted by national publications, top 10 lists, and individuals' social media feeds, likely contributing to the spot's rising popularity. Open Space and Trails does not have data on the number of users who frequent the area.

Both the pullout along the road and the springs themselves are ideal spots for wildlife viewing, particularly of the bighorn sheep and elk that frequent the natural mineral lick and snow-free meadow across the river. The roadside parking is also used for climbing access to what is known as the Narrows climbing area, located on National Forest lands on the opposite side of the highway.

### Public Safety Data

OST Staff worked with the Pitkin County Sheriff's Office and Carbondale Fire Department to pull dispatch call data for the last 10 years (2009 through June 2019). These include 911 calls as well as administration staff or officers reporting a call. Staff reviewed the detailed call information with public safety staff and summarized the nature of the calls. The full data set can be found in the the Appendix.

The call data shows that the sheriffs' office has had more presence at the hot springs in more recent years, completing "extra patrols" of the area. Often when the officers routinely swing by the area, no violations or illegal behaviors are observed (shown when the additional data field is blank in the table in the Appendix). The data shows that the most common types of calls are related to people sleeping in their vehicles, lost property and suspicious behavior. Sometimes the increase in calls is related to a single individual who generates the need for followup calls. For example in 2017, a cluster of 8 calls were related to a single individual.

## 3.6 Easements, Rights of Way, Decrees and Other Rights:

The Penny Hot Springs area exists within both the CDOT right of way and Pitkin County OST property as described in section 3.2. No other easements burden the parcels.

2009 - 2019 Call data summary

EXTRA PATROL	25
SLEEPER	17
LOST PROPERTY	9
SUSPICIOUS	8
FOLLOW UP	6
THEFT	5
CITIZEN ASSISTANCE	4
MEDICAL	4
MOTORIST ASSIST	4
FOUND PROPERTY	3
HARASSMENT	3
TRESPASS	3
UNATTENDED VEHICLE	3
ANIMAL CMLNT	2
CODE VIOLATION	2
INDECENT EXPOSURE	2
LITTERING	2
MUTUAL AID	2
REDDI	2
ASSAULT	1
DISABLED VEH	1
FIREWORKS	1
HIT&RUN ACCIDEN	1
INTOXICATED PER	1
MENACING	1
PARKING	1
PERSON STOP	1

#### Definitions:

Extra Patrol - Deputy swings though trying to be visible in the area and does not find anything suspicious

Trespass - Item stolen from vehicle

Mutual Aid - One agency calls for another agency to help

REDDI - Report every drunk driver immediately

Overdue - Person has not returned home yet

### 3.7 Prior Plans and Related Studies:

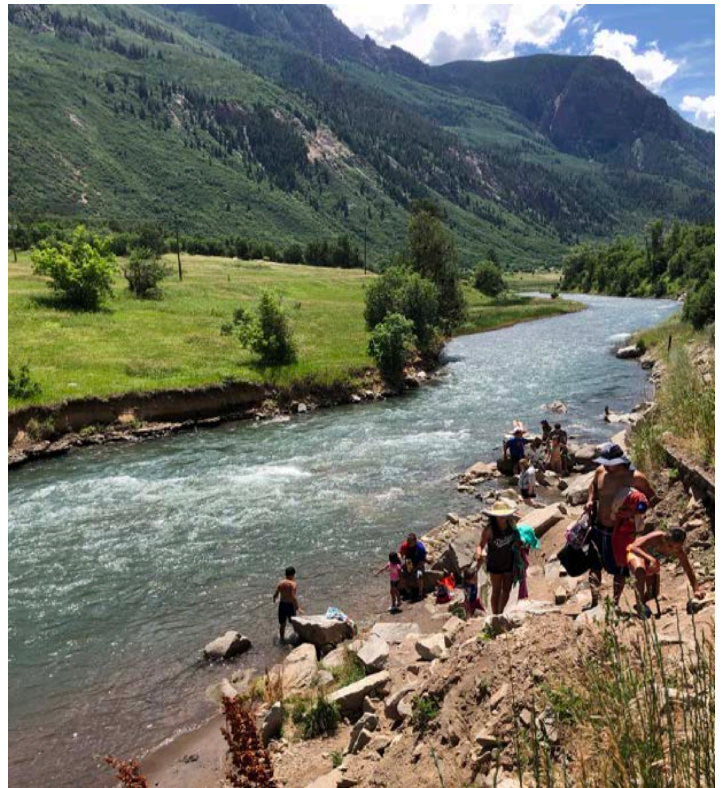
The *2008 Filoha Meadows Nature Preserve Management Plan* identified Penny Hot Springs as the "Visitor Use Area" within the Preserve. Actions identified included: "OST will work with the Colorado Department of Transportation and the Scenic Byway Committee to consider trailhead signage and potentially a kiosk with natural history and resource information and a spotting scope. OST will also work to maintain a safe, sustainable trail to the hot springs."

The Penny Hot Springs is within the Crystal River Caucus area, which is guided by the *2016 Crystal River Valley Master Plan*. This plan does not specifically address the Penny Hot Springs, but does identify core values that the area should strive to achieve. The overarching core values are the preservation of the natural environment and the protection of the area's rural character. This includes the "preservation of open space, wildlife habitat, the Highway 133 scenic corridor, and water quality in the Crystal River valley." Under the "Recreation and Open Space" section the plan states that the Caucus supports "expanding non-motorized recreational activities, to maintain the integrity of the Valley's ecosystems. Access for residents and visitors to these varied recreational activities should be maintained and improved." The infrastructure section of the plan places importance on safety improvements along Highway 133.



Hot springs users and resident bighorn sheep share the banks of the Crystal River.





The primitive, naturally fed pools are shaped by users to control the water's temperature. Typically they are about 2 feet deep.





## 4. Planning Process and Public Involvement

### 4.1 Baseline Data Collection and Public Input

OST Staff met with stakeholder groups including the Crystal Caucus, Healthy Rivers and Streams Board, Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association, West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway Commission, and the Redstone Community Association to update them on the kick-off of the project and the process for appointing a Steering Committee. Staff also met with county representatives and partners including: the Environmental Health Department to discuss water-quality concerns; the Sheriff's Department to understand the law enforcement trends and challenges associated with the hot springs use; CDOT staff to review the opportunities and challenges within the highway right of way; and the Forest Service, which manages much of the public land within the Crystal Valley.

**Online survey:** A public survey was open from July 22 through August 9, 2019. Almost 300 responses were garnered from community members and hot springs users; almost a third of responses were from people who live in the Crystal Valley. The survey also sought volunteers to participate on the Steering Committee, for the positions appointed by the OSTB. The survey asked open-ended questions about usage patterns of the area, what people love and what they would like to see changed. The survey themes included:

**Existing use:** The survey collected input from people who use Penny Hot Springs to soak in the springs and enjoy the river, scenery and natural setting, as well as those who primarily visit the area to view wildlife. Responses also showed that a number of people are using the parking pullout for climbing access. The survey collected feedback from those who responded that they do not use the area, but drive past it on a regular basis or are residents of the Crystal River Valley. Respondents ranged from those who visit the springs infrequently or never to those who soak daily during certain times of the year and at all hours.

**What respondents love about the area:** Those who responded to the survey love the undeveloped, natural setting of the springs and the primitive, unmanaged site. Many cited the fact that this area is free, accessible and open to the public as qualities they appreciate. Wildlife viewing and the scenery/views are values people who use the area appreciate. The serenity, peacefulness and quietude of the setting were also reasons that people visit the springs.

**What respondents would like to see changed:** The survey responses to the question asking people what they would like to see changed ranged widely from those who prefer to leave things as they are currently or "do nothing" to requests for improvements to the access route to the hot springs, safety enhancements at the parking area and highway interface, bathrooms and trash receptacles, and crowd management / user education. There was a slightly higher percentage of those living in the Crystal Valley who felt that the interface with the highway and the parking area needs to be improved. Frequent users also noted the need for highway/parking safety improvements. These frequent users (respondents who visit several times a week, to one to two times a month) also noted the prevalence of trash to be a concern, with many picking up after others and advocating for more responsible user behavior/stewardship. A number of the frequent users requested trash receptacles and restrooms, while others prefer that nothing be changed. Overuse is a concern shared by many of the survey respondents who feel the use/popularity of the springs detracts from the reasons they once visited, causing some to no longer use the area as frequently or during certain times.

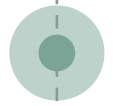
## Process Overview and Time Line



### Public Comment / Baseline Data Collection

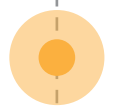
Stakeholder Group Meetings / Public Outreach

- July 11 - Crystal Caucus Update\*
- July 18 - Healthy Rivers and Streams Board Update\*
- July 19 - Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association Meeting\*
- July 22 - Survey / Public Comment Opens  
Public can apply through the survey to be a steering committee representative
- July 26 - West Elks Scenic Byway Meeting\*
- August 6 - Redstone Community Association\*
- August 9 - Survey / Public Comment Closes  
Public can apply through the survey to be a steering committee representative
- August 15 - OSTB to appoint the three public representatives to the Steering Committee



### Draft Plan Development / Steering Committee Workshop

- October 8 - Steering Committee Workshop
- November 7 - OSTB Meeting to Release Draft Plan
- Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association Update
- November 14 - Crystal River Caucus Meeting
- Nov 11 through Jan 17 - Public Comment on Draft Plan
- December 3 - Redstone Community Association Update
- February TBD - Steering Committee Updates Draft Plan



### Final Plan Revisions and Adoption

- March 3 - OSTB to Adopt Final Plan

\* Stakeholder group to appoint steering committee representative



## 4.2 Plan Development

### 4.2.1 Steering Committee

The development of Action Items in the Penny Hot Springs Draft Management Plan was guided by an appointed Steering Committee. Local groups who had expressed interest in the Hot Springs were asked to appoint one representative to participate in the process. The Open Space and Trails Board appointed two Hot Springs users and one at-large resident of the Crystal Valley to participate on the committee based on the interest the appointees expressed in the online survey.

#### **Steering Committee members:**

- John Hoffman - West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway Commission
- John Armstrong - Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association
- Kate Hudson - Healthy Rivers and Streams Board
- Andrea Stewart or Sarah-Jane Johnson - Carbondale Chamber of Commerce
- Rebecca Moller or Rose Rossello - Town of Carbondale Parks and Recreation Commission
- Bill Argeros or Stacey Bernot - Crystal Caucus
- Dave Johnson - Redstone Community Association
- Zuleika Pevec - Penny Hot Springs user
- Michael Gorman - Penny Hot Springs user
- Jeff Bier - Crystal Valley resident
- Wayne Ives – Open Space and Trails Board liaison



Steering Committee members work on generating strategies to address the identified challenges facing the Penny Hot Springs area.

The Steering Committee met for a 6-hour workshop on October 8th, 2019 to develop a vision statement and near- and long-term strategies to address the increased use at Penny Hot Springs. Staff from the Colorado Department of Transportation, Pitkin County Sheriff's Office and Pitkin County Environmental Health participated. Open Space and Trails staff facilitated the discussion.

In preparation for the workshop day, Steering Committee members reviewed public survey responses and identified themes that helped guide the discussion.

On the day of the workshop, committee members began by discussing the aspects of Penny Hot Springs that survey respondents loved. The "Love List" was ultimately organized into categories of similar themes. The overarching themes of the **Love List** included:

- wildlife viewing,
- scenery,
- natural and undeveloped,
- peaceful,
- access to hot springs and climbing,
- users are connected to nature,
- the soaking,
- community spirit, and
- FREE.

Keeping the elements from the "Love List" in mind, committee members worked through an exercise to develop a Vision Statement for Penny Hot Springs. This Vision Statement is a guide for the Action Items in the management plan.

#### **Vision Statement:**

*To protect and preserve the natural environment and future use of Penny Hot Springs in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner that is compatible with the location's natural setting and that encourages respect and stewardship.*

The remainder of the workshop was spent discussing the concerns that committee members saw expressed in the survey responses and, ultimately, different strategies for addressing those concerns. Concerns included: Sanitation/human waste/trash, online/social media presence, highway safety, illegal camping, disrespectful behaviors, dog issues, safe river access and overuse. The Action Items in the plan addressing these concerns are a result of the strategies developed by the Steering Committee.

### **4.3 Draft Plan Input**

(Text to be drafted following public comment period on the draft plan)

#### **SURVEY RESULTS / STEERING COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

##### **LOVE LIST:**

- WILDLIFE VIEWING,
- SCENERY,
- NATURAL AND UNDEVELOPED,
- PEACEFUL,
- ACCESS TO HOT SPRINGS AND CLIMBING,
- USERS ARE CONNECTED TO NATURE,
- SOAKING,
- COMMUNITY SPIRIT, AND
- FREE

##### **CONCERNS:**

- SANITATION / WASTE
- USER BEHAVIOR / ETIQUETTE
- TRASH / GLASS
- TRAFFIC / HIGHWAY SAFETY
- UNSAFE ACCESS TRAIL
- OVERUSE / CROWDING
- DOGS / DOG WASTE
- SOCIAL MEDIA / ONLINE PROMOTION
- CAMPING

## 5. Management Actions

Penny Hot Springs is a beloved place and management actions in the area should take into consideration, and not negatively influence, all of the reasons that the community loves this location. Specifically, management actions should not adversely impact the scenery, views, wildlife, peacefulness and natural aspects of this unique hot springs setting. The actions in this plan are meant to empower managers and users with the tools to care for the setting and guide use in a positive manner, honoring the natural setting and history, and encouraging personal responsibility.

The management philosophy for this area is to focus efforts on education, outreach and organization to address some of the primary concerns that result from the popularity of the hot springs. Organizing the parking area (Action Item 5.4) and defining/restricting the number of parking spots will limit the use to a carrying capacity that feels appropriate for the springs. Other actions focus on education and outreach to encourage all users to follow a code of ethics and behavior to address some of the concerns that have been expressed regarding use of the springs, such as dogs, camping and litter. If problems persist over time, additional strategies may be needed in the future. For example, trash and sanitation challenges may necessitate further action.

The intent in providing low-profile enhancements in the near term is to continue to provide a natural, free amenity where people can connect with the natural setting, while not encouraging additional use and thus necessitating more formalized management or maintenance, or generating additional interest from highway users. For example, low-profile parking improvements to organize the pullout and improve safety at the highway interface, safety improvements for the trail access to the springs, and signage alerting users to the regulations and appropriate etiquette and responsibilities, should address a number of the community's concerns and limit impacts to the natural resources of the area. More visible and substantial improvements, such as installing a port-a-potty, trash receptacles or lighting, could add to the desirability of the pullout, generating additional use from highway users and creating additional maintenance, management and resource needs. While additional facilities may be needed in the future, they are identified as long-term options, if determined to be necessary.

Table 1: Concerns and Actions Chart - illustrates how the action items described in the following pages seek to address the concerns raised by the community and the steering committee.

CONCERNS	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS					
	CDOT Lease / Permit	Parking Lot Organization / Access Trail Redesign / Bank Restoration	Rules and Etiquette Signage and Outreach	Interpretive Signage	Alternate Climber Parking	Acquisition
Trash			X	X		X
Overuse	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sanitation/ human waste			X	X		X
Online/social media presence			X			
Highway safety	X	X				
Illegal camping	X		X			
Disrespectful behaviors	X		X	X		
Dog issues	X		X	X		
River access improvements / stabilization		X				



## 5.1 CDOT Renewable Lease Agreement

The majority of the property that the public thinks of as Penny Hot Springs is actually in the CDOT right of way. CDOT is responsible for administering the state's transportation infrastructure, it is not part of their mission to manage recreational assets. In order for the County to make any improvements or to enforce rules at Penny Hot Springs, a recreational lease agreement with CDOT is needed. CDOT has 5-year lease agreements, renewable every 5 years for up to 25 years (upon which they can be leased again), that can be worked out with local governments. This arrangement would give the County the ability to implement infrastructure improvements such as organizing the parking and access, and installing signage as well as managing the area with seamless rules and enforcement ability.

*Partners:* CDOT, Sheriff's Department

*Cost estimate:* \$12,000 (survey and lease fees) + \$250.00 for five-year lease (\$1,250 for 25-year period)

*Time frame:* 1-2 years



The parking pullout above Penny Hot Springs is rarely found empty as it is pictured here when high flows on the Crystal washed out the hot springs.

## 5.2 Rules, Guidelines and Environmental Ethics Signage and Outreach

There is currently no regulatory signage located at Penny Hot Springs. Staff will work with CDOT to achieve a seamless rule system across the jurisdictional boundaries. Signage will be installed near the access trail to the river with the rules and regulations, and language encouraging environmental ethics. All signage should be of a low profile, placed at a height that does not impede views from the highway, matching a similar look and feel to interpretive panels, harmonious with OST 2014 Signage Guidelines, and utilizing universally recognizable symbols or bilingual language.

In addition to Title 12, staff will work on educating users about the following rules: no dogs allowed, no camping, Leave No Trace - pack in/pack out, no glass, and no amplified music (consistent with the Pitkin County Noise Abatement Code Section 6-36). Etiquette guidelines include: being respectful of other visitors and not making others feel uncomfortable. Staff will work with CDOT on establishing these regulations and enforcement capabilities.

In addition to on-site signage, online information regarding Penny Hot Springs should include the rules, environmental ethic and recommended etiquette. This information should be provided on Open Space and Trails websites, the Carbondale Chamber website and other relevant online sites.

*Partners:* CDOT, Sheriff's Office

*Cost estimate:* \$2,500

*Time frame:* Design 1-2 years, Construction 2+ years

## 5.3 Interpretive Signage

The natural environment surrounding Penny Hot Springs is one of the most important things users love about the location. There is currently no interpretive signage describing this special setting and why it is such a valuable place to protect. This location is an important opportunity to connect with the users and encourage protection and stewardship of the natural environment.

Staff will work with interested members of the Steering Committee to design and install interpretive signage on topics focused on the natural environment (geology, wildlife, etc.) and history. The interpretive panels will be of a low profile, so they do not interrupt the view from the highway or draw additional attention from passing motorists.

*Partners:* Penny Hot Springs Steering Committee, Healthy Rivers and Stream Board, West Elk Loop Scenic and Historic Byway Commission

*Cost estimate:* \$25,000 (design + installation)

*Time frame:* Design 1-2 years, Construction 2+ years

## PITKIN COUNTY NOISE ABATEMENT - CODE SECTION 6-36

### 6-36-030 Noises Prohibited:

#### #3. Public Loud Speakers

"Using or operating a loudspeaker or sound amplifying equipment in a fixed or movable position, or mounted upon any vehicle; located in or upon private property or upon any street, alley, sidewalk, mall, park, place or any public property for the purpose of entertainment, commercial advertising, giving instructions, directions, talks, addresses, lectures or transmitting music to any persons or assemblages or persons in such a manner as to violate Section 6.36.040 [establishes the decibel level as 50dB(A) at night and 55dB(A) in the daytime] unless a permit as provided in Section 6.36.070 is first obtained."



## 5.4 Pullout Organization

The current highway pullout used as the parking area for Penny Hot Springs access has evolved organically over the years. The lack of defined parking spots and vehicular entrance and exit points creates a level of unpredictability. This can be unsettling for those driving past along Hwy. 133, as they try to anticipate vehicular movements.

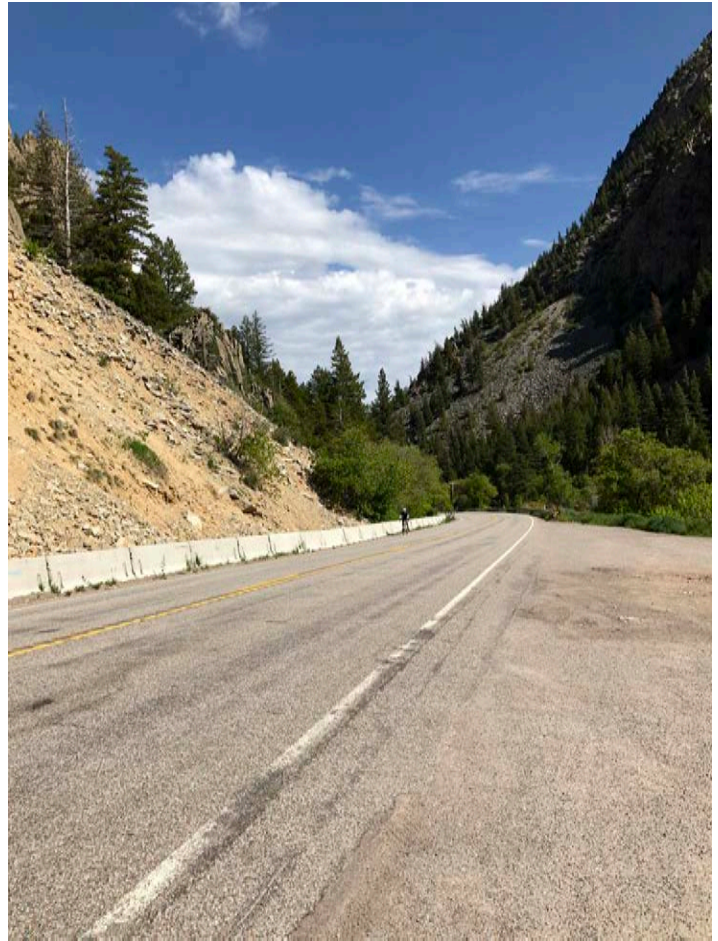
Staff will work with CDOT and engineer(s) to design and implement an organized parking layout with defined vehicular entrance and exit points. The parking area design should not impede views from the highway and should respect the natural aesthetics of the area. The number of defined parking spots will total approximately 14 spaces, as this will also be a measure to help control overuse. Other elements that should be considered during design include: a singular / defined river access trail, interpretive signage locations, rules and etiquette sign locations, wildlife viewing and intuitive pedestrian flow.

Facilities such as restrooms and trash receptacles were discussed by the steering committee, and are addressed under *Action Item 5.9 Potential Future Amenities*.

*Partners:* CDOT

*Cost estimate:* TBD

*Time frame:* Design 1-2 years, Construction 2+ years



Highway 133 is two lanes as it passes the pullout serving Penny Hot Springs visitors and climbers accessing the Narrows climbing zone on the opposite side of the highway.



## 5.5 River Access Improvements and Bank Restoration / Stabilization

The current access trail to the river and hot springs is unstable and not intuitive if you park at either end of the pullout. This has led to multiple user-created routes and erosion issues on the hillside above the hot springs. The goals for this action item are both bank stabilization and restoration and providing a safer access to the river.

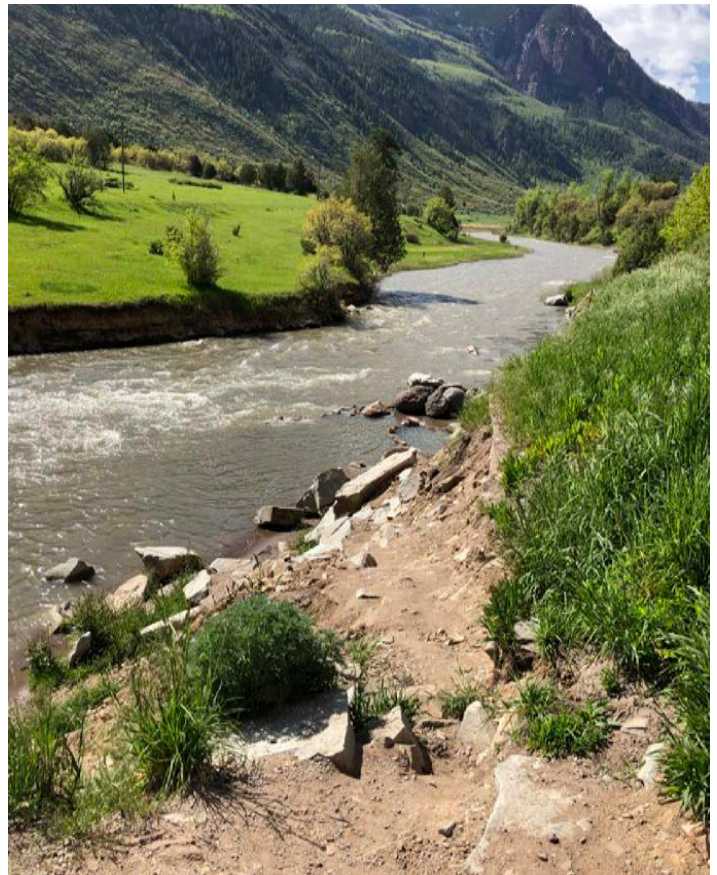
Staff will work with CDOT to create a sustainable trail route from the parking area to the river level using natural materials. Through design considerations at the parking lot level, it should be intuitive where the trail access is located. ADA access will be evaluated, however it may be impossible to achieve in this location due to terrain constraints. A railing will be installed along the bankside of the access trail.

The ecological function of the hillside can also be improved through stabilization and restoration. As part of the River Access Improvements design, alternate access routes will be eliminated and the bank restored and revegetated with native vegetation as much as possible.

*Partners:* CDOT, Healthy Rivers and Streams

*Cost estimate:* TBD

*Time frame:* Design 1-2 years, Construction 2+ years



The hillside above the springs has eroded over time.



A steep, unimproved path leads from the pullout to the river's edge.



## 5.6 Climber Parking for the Narrows

The parking pullout at Penny Hot Springs is often used by climbers who are accessing the Narrows across the highway. Climbers park at the hot springs and then cross the highway to an access a trail to the climbing area. During ice-climbing season, users will park at the next pullout downstream to access the Avocado Gully area across the highway.

Staff will work with the Forest Service and CDOT as opportunities arise to evaluate alternate locations for climber parking access to the Narrows. This could potentially be a pullout on the same side of the highway as the climbing or consolidating parking at the pullout currently used for access to Avocado Gully.

Partners: CDOT, Forest Service, Access Fund

Cost estimate: TBD

Time frame: As opportunities arise

## 5.7 Work with CDOT on Delineating a “No Passing Zone”

Currently the highway configuration allows for passing in the southbound lane in the vicinity of Penny Hot Springs. Open Space and Trails supports CDOT exploring changing the stretch of Highway 133 around Penny Hot Springs to a no-passing zone.

*Partners:* CDOT

*Cost estimate:* None at this time

*Time frame:* Determined by CDOT

## 5.8 Potential Future Acquisitions

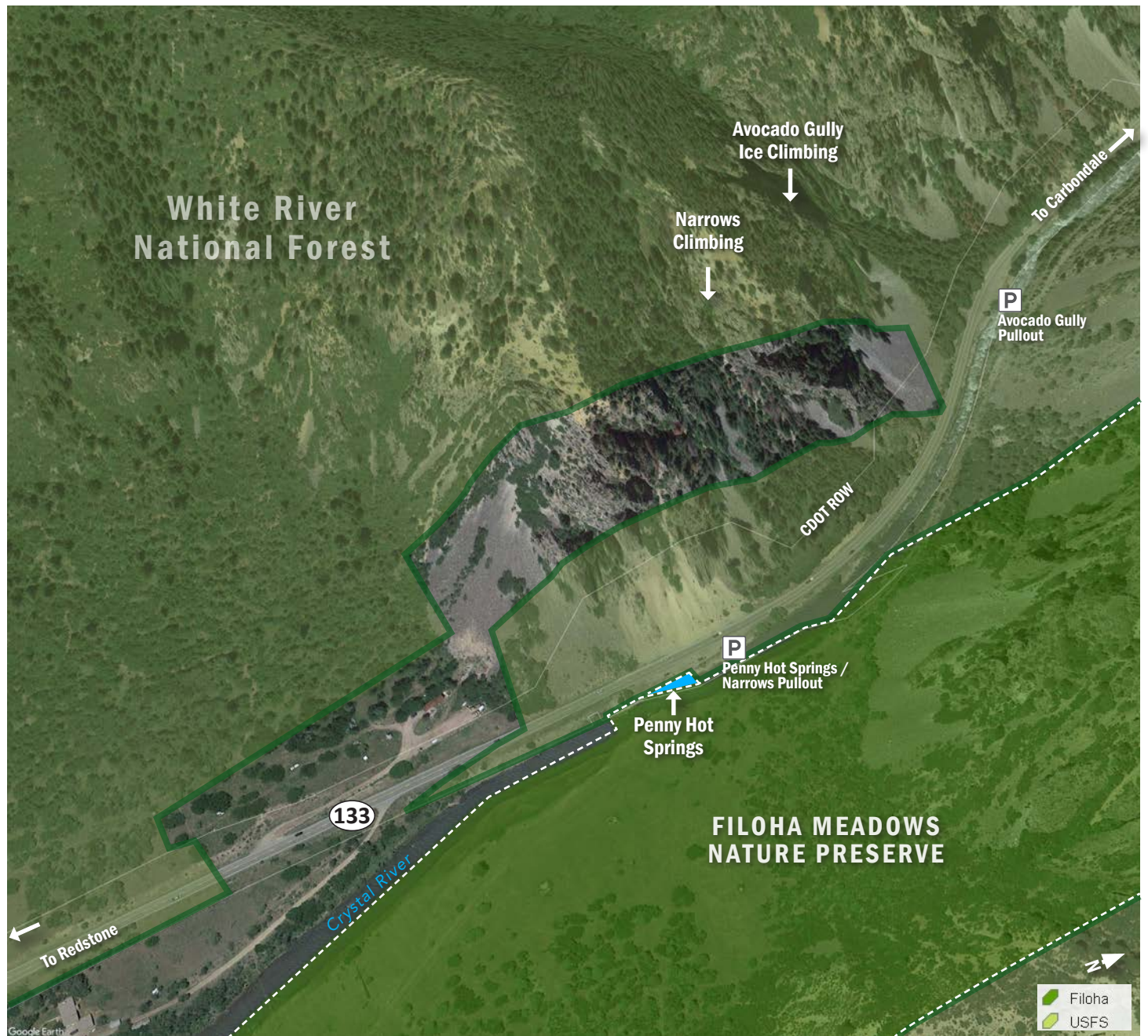
Future acquisitions could help alleviate some of the pressure and problems occurring at the pullout for Penny Hot Springs. The pullout is currently used by a variety of users, not just those seeking to soak in the hot water. Also, there are potential solutions to issues that may not be feasible or ideal to locate along the Hwy. 133 right of way, such as restroom facilities. Therefore, when opportunities present themselves, Pitkin County may evaluate property acquisitions in the vicinity of Penny Hot Springs for the purpose of addressing concerns related to Penny Hot Springs. Specific considerations to evaluate include: alternate locations for restrooms, alternate locations for parking, trash collection, wildlife viewing opportunities, ADA access to the hot springs.

During acquisition discussions, questions to be asked should include: How likely is it that this acquisition will alleviate concerns at Penny Hot Springs? Will this acquisition have unintended consequences? Will this acquisition fit with the Vision Statement and not adversely affect the things people love about the area?

*Partners:* TBD

*Cost estimate:* TBD

*Time frame:* As the opportunity arises





## 5.9 Potential Future Amenities

At this time, no restrooms or trash receptacles will be installed at Penny Hot Springs. The focus will be on the promotion of Leave No Trace principles. Signage will direct users to the nearest public restroom. A trash can should not be installed, given the proximity to the highway and the propensity for dumping.

See the “future acquisitions” Action Item for alternate location evaluation.

In the long term, if a restroom is deemed imperative at Penny Hot Springs, it would have to be a removable port-a-potty due to regulatory requirements and regulations. The 2018 Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Regulations prohibit vault toilets from being located within 100 feet of a water course. The port-a-potty could be placed in a structure that has a rustic look, similar to an old outhouse. The port-a-potty would need to be located in a way that meets the Vision Statement and does not adversely impact the ideals of the “Love List.” Maintenance schedules would need to take into account the facility’s location along a state highway.



Visitors enjoy the springs along the banks of the Crystal River.

## Appendix 1: Public Survey Results

The initial public survey was open from July 22 through August 9 and received 292 responses. The survey collected information on how and when users visit the area, what they love about it, what they would like to see changed or improved and what, if any, concerns they have.

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
1	soaking, fishing, climbing access, and wildlife viewing	2/month morning generally	I used to love the seclusion... now I would say climbing parking	protect it. People are trashing it and destroying the area. Make it usable but restricted.	32	GWS	No
2	Mainly for a quick soak, sometimes an impromptu picnic	Every couple of weeks, Sunday morning is our favorite time, but during the week, after work, is also great.	How rugged and undeveloped it is. We like that people rearrange the pools regularly, and that everyone has dogs off leash. It feels like a little hidden Colorado gem.	Put a sign that reads "no glass," and a trash can in the parking lot.	33	Just south of Redstone.	Yes
3	Soaking and wildlife uses	Day and night	That they are natural hot springs that we can enjoy at anytime with no cost.	Advertising it so people can't ruin the natural beauty of it.	30	Carbondale	Yes
4	Have not used it for several years.	I started going to the hot springs in 1960. We would visit/soak at least 2-3 times a week.	The pools.	Hard to say since I have not been since 1971.	73	Basalt	No
5	bring my kids to soak and play on the beach during the day.	usually mid morning 6-7 times a year depending on the flow of the Crystal.	It is true old school Colorado	Limit after dark use and abuse.	44	El Jebel	No
6	Wildlife viewing.	Regularly.	Wildlife and open landscape.	Restrooms.	57	Gunnison County	No
7	Climbing access, wildlife viewing, access to National Forest	Varies based on the season. During climbing season- about 2 times per month. Otherwise, about once per month.	Wildlife and climbing. Lightning bugs across the river!	Too many people smoking pot while soaking in the springs. A lot of use of the hot springs, in general.	39	Carbondale, CO	No
8	Very infrequently due to heavy and constant use. I would be more likely to stop to view wildlife than to soak in the springs. I've also used the parking for climbing access.	I live in Redstone and drive by it at least twice a day, morning and afternoon, and at varied times over the weekend.	The view over to Filoha is really quite spectacular, and the river creates a natural barrier between the soakers and the meadow. The constant wildlife activity makes it truly special.	Approach to pull-out and parking is incredibly dangerous. Drivers will stop in the travel lanes, back into traffic, etc. The undefined nature of the parking means that sometimes it's organized and relatively safe; more often it's random. It's not unusual to count 15-20 cars parked in the pull out directly adjacent to the hot springs.	43	redstone	Yes
9	drive by and enjoy	drive by two times a day on commute	it is undeveloped	sanitation	62	redstone	Yes
10	As an amenity for guests at our lodge.	Rarely, but generally in the afternoon.	Scenic beauty of Filoha Meadows and the Redstone cliffs.	Installation of restrooms and changing facilities. Addition of a set of safe stairs to get down to the river from the lot.	70	Redstone	Yes
11	Wildlife viewing, access to national forest	7:15ish am; daily	Wildlife across river, the views down the valley in the autumn	Defined parking spots (also less parking so less people!)... can also be scary to come up to when driving to/from Redstone because of how people park or how they are re-entering highway	40	Redstone	Yes
12	Wildlife viewing.	I live in Redstone and drive by Penny nearly every day. Viewing wildlife in Filoha is essentially an everyday activity for me.	I love it the most when there are no cars in the parking area.	Decrease or eliminate roadside parking in view of highway. Create sanitation facilities out of view from highway.	68	Redstone	Yes
13	soaking, parking for the climbing area (The Narrows)	1-3 times per month, usually late afternoon (coming back from climbing, hiking, or skiing) or evening	beautiful scenery, hot springs, plenty of parking, funny cast of characters	structured but natural pools—everyone moves around the rocks anyway; would be nice to formalize it a bit more so you can sit more fully in the water and the ecosystem isn't constantly modified by everyone who comes through. more intentional management so they don't get trashed	24	Carbondale	No
14	Your going to take this spring away from the people aren't you.	Not super often.	That you haven't put your signs up and stolen it from the people yet.	Nothing, keep away from it. Almost everything cool this valley ever had has been systematically extinguished by the government since growing up here. This attention to Penny Hot springs is the new saddest thing about living here. We lost two hotpots in Glenwood a few years ago. Now we are going to lost this second to last one. It is beyond the public's scope to know how to improve it. It could use a rope attached to the trail for people to get down. That is it.	35	Glenwood Springs	No



#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
15	Soaking and enjoying the meditative gifts of its natural environment.	Often, sunrise or before dawn to miss all the people traffic	Naturesque, free to the public	Nothing	32	Carbondale	No
16	I was visiting from New Orleans (with a friend from Fort Collins) and I had a beautiful soak in Penny Springs one afternoon. It was very pleasant, with no trash and easy access off of the road.	I have only visited once, but hope to come back.	The beautiful view of the mountains from the springs, and being able to go straight from hot water to cold by dipping in the river.	My experience was lovely and I wouldn't change anything.	48	New Orleans, LA	No
17	I use the Penny hot springs area for soaking primarily, wildlife viewing.	My favorite time of day is sunrise on a week day.	Being in nature, held by the warm waters. No chemicals in the water. The piece of being with the land. Other mindful users.	If I could change how people respected the sacred space and left no trace of them being there. I choose to clean up after those who may not understand this concept. I would rather everyone do their part than see porta -potties and trashcans all over the place. If we could come up with common courtesies and educate users, without having signage everywhere that would be cool. However with the amount of use the area seeing the consideration of bathroom facilities, trash and signage needs to be considered. Thanks for being open to input.	37	Carbondale	No
18	Soak, climbing access	Evenings, mornings	Free, communal, relaxing	I don't have much to change about it.	27	Carbondale	Yes
19	The Penny Hotsprings have always been a sacred place for me. I go there to heal, to relax, to soak, to view the open space meadow and the overall experience has helped my spiritual and physical health as a long-time community member.	I go to the hotsprings about twice or once a month. I usually go on the weekends and it can be any time of day. I usually like to go before the sun goes behind the rocks above the springs.	Again, I love that it is a sacred community space where I can go and heal and relax. I also love jumping in the Crystal River while I am there.	I would immediately get a crew together to close the unsustainable entries to stop/reduce erosion and build the primary entrance (rock staircase) to be more sustainable and safer.	36	Carbondale	No
20	Maybe will use for hot springs soak if not too crowded	Probably one or two times a year	Relaxing when no own else is there	Develop it to include a safer way down from the parking area. Have safety rules posted including no glass containers, carry out requirements for trash, bathroom facilities for humans, dog regulations (including leash enforcement & waste pick up. Parking spaces marked to help with organizing the lot and a guard rail or some kind of fence to help with safety on the edge. A call box installed would be helpful if some emergency happens in this area without cell service. A clarification regarding use of the area would be helpful to explain that people are using the area with potential risk awareness.	71	Redstone	Yes
21	Soaking and wildlife viewing	Couple times a month and usually afternoon/evenings	How simple it is. Not commercialized! Keep it natural!	Little more observation from law enforcement to ensure respectful use of area and hopefully limit litter from visitors.	32	Carbondale	Yes
22	I enjoy sitting by the river with snacks and my dog. Basking in the sun and soaking out my worries in the healing waters of penny.	Morning and early afternoons. 2 to 3 times a month depending on time of year.	The serenity. And the healing vibrations. Thou that's changed since someone decided to put it on google!!!	Take it off google!	39	Carbondale	No
23	I don't use Penny any more. Tourists have turned it into an overcrowded ,filthy, disgusting dump.	0	The way it used to be!	Visitor numbers need to be controlled, Garbage is extremely problematic, Human and dog waste included.	57	Redstone	Yes
24	Soaking and picnic (beachside), and viewing the mountain goats.	Twice a month. Mid day or early morning.	I love that it is free and open to the public.	The steps to get to the hot springs.	36	Carbondale	No

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
25	I have soaked in the past but it has become so heavily used now with trash and waste it is not so appealing	Drive by all the time.	It's beautiful	Organize the parking for safety and to limit numbers and put in a bathroom and trash and have an ost ranger stopping by regularly	52	Marble Ranch Acres	No
26	wildlife viewing	drive by almost daily	the natural setting which is safe for wildlife	keep people from recreating	60		Yes
27	Picnic, soak, wildlife viewing, climbing access, fishing.	Infrequently, usually afternoons.	Wilderness setting for soaking	Build a spa on or near a bridge over the Crystal River with soaking pool(s), showers, bathroom facilities, wildlife viewing arena and picnic tables.	74	Carbondale	No
28	I go for a nice quiet sober soak with lots of cold river dips!	Up to once a week in the winter all times of day!	It's Free it's natural and in nature! And the river access!	I think it would be nice to have a sign with proper etiquette like no glass or smoking cigarettes near other people are being loud drunk. Signs that say pack it in and pack it out .	30	Carbondale	No
29	To soak in the hot springs, sometimes we will also bring some picnic items.	Probably about once a month. Generally in the later part of the day to early evening.	I love that it is FREE, that the local community works on maintaining the springs, and that I have had some great conversations and experiences while enjoying the springs. I also love that it is unmarked from the highway - but so easily accessible.	Step and trail improvements from parking down to the springs, trash disposal and a Porta Potty would improve the area a lot! I have never been there when the parking was a serious problem.	31	El Jebel	Yes
30	Soak	5 time a year but not lately, to crowded	The scenery, wildlife, proximity to my house, and the natural hot springs	A place for people to use the bathroom Trash receptacle / recycle Signage warnings of drivers pulling in and out Remove from Trip Advisor	41	Redstone Blvd, Redstone	Yes
31	I have not used the Springs.	N/A	Natural beauty and exceptional resource.	From my perspective the major issues are sanitation and highway safety. A reduced speed limit in that area and perhaps "congested area" signage might help with safety. A porta-potty in the short term and a permanent and more attractive campground-style outhouse would solve the sanitation problem and perhaps help with the safety issue, since some spring users cross the highway to relieve themselves.	72	Redstone	Yes
32	Soak	3 or 4 times a year morning or afternoon	The views	Bathrooms, trash and recycling, a little more sheriff or county presence.	40	Redstone	Yes
33	It is a beautiful place to visit and relax. The warm water makes a exciting experience for the brave hearted.	Every time I visit my friends in Glenwood Springs I visit Penny Hot Springs which every year.	I love the find memories that I have of the hot springs before the road was changed and the springs were a local treasure .	Would be nice if the springs were made more available to the public and maintained . Safety is a big issue that needs to be considered.	71	Illinois	No
34	soak	once a summer	so unique!	it is just always too crowded	57	carbondale	No
35	Soak. But not as much since it's become so popular	Night/day in winter	The natural beauty and used to love the solitude and clothing optional- but not anymore	No onlookers. More privacy. Less substance use. More consistent flow of hot water	43	Glenwood Springs	No
36	35 years	twice a month	view	Need public restrooms!!! There is a lot of human excrement around the hot springs. And need to change the passing lane on Hwy 133 (in front of the parking area) to a no passing zone	58	Pitkin County	Yes
37	Parking, soak	From August-April I visit at least once a week at varying times from morning to midnight. Usually always bring a trash bag bc people leave their trash out and it infuriates me	The zen views and being right on the river. No where else can you do temperature therapy going from hot spring to swim in the cold crystal river	Add trash receptacle	37	Roaring fork valley	No
38	Soak	1/ every other year...	Unique thermal springs close to home. Free.	Access to the hot springs could be much safer.	46	Aspen	No
39	Soak	Visit during fall winter and spring sometimes twice per week	Natural hot springs, meet interesting people	Make it larger safer and cleaner. Larger means crafting more pools with Stonescapes, safer by regular visits and better foot access and cleaner by having trash containers	71	Carbondale	No
40	Parking for the climbing area.	Weekends, 6x a year.	Don't reall love it. It is crowded, dangeroust to pull out of, noisy on the highway.	Make a third lane in the highway for turning.	59	Redstone	Yes



#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
41	I used to frequent the Penny mostly during the winter to soak but have started to take my child there in the summer to hang out and play on the shore by the river	I rarely visit the Penny Hot Springs Area anymore. I was once an avid user and loved spending my time there but the current way it's been overrun and used as a dumping ground for party waste is too depressing for me. I sometimes go to clean up. Last time I was there i carted away half of a large 7/11 pizza, empty glass beer bottles, Monster energy drink cans, limes, strawberries and other miscellaneous trash.	I love the natural beauty surround the area. It is a very special place	That is a very good question. I would like to see some sort of responsibility or onus put upon the users to take care of this beautiful and natural resource. There are too many disrespectful users that are ruining it for the rest of us.	41	Carbondale	No
42	Soaking	About once a month, either early in the day-8ish or late afternoon-4,5	The naturalness-	Cleanliness, otherwise it is fine!	63	Carbondale	No
43	I'll take a peaceful night drive up the Crystal to Penny in on winter evenings/nights to soak in the hot springs and look at the stars. Sometimes i have parked there to access the Narrows climbing area.	In the winter I'll go around once a week and usually after dinner. I've only gone a few times in the summer, but the river level is usually too high and the setting isn't quite right in the summer. Winter is the best, especially if you can soak during a snow storm.	I love the undeveloped setting, the handmade feeling and the dark skies, and the people who I've met there. I love the community who create the pools, and the community that the pools create. I love that it joins communities from both sides of McClure pass. I love that every year the river changes the pools and that each level of flow requires careful placement of rocks for proper mixing of hot and cold water to achieve the perfect soaking conditions. I love that there are community members who know how to adjust the water flow and make it more enjoyable for everyone. I also love that there are now a series of smaller pools so that groups can	It would be nice if there is a way to educate users on ways they can be more respectful of the space (i.e. trash, noise, glass, moving rocks, etc.). Maybe a primitive sign with guidelines. The stairs could be improved a little to avoid further erosion and make for a safer route especially in the winter.	33	Carbondale	No
44	wildlife viewing	various	no houses, undeveloped and relatively natural	stop advertising and promoting its use	80	off hwy 133	Yes
45	Drive by almost every day.	Don't plan to.	Scenery.	Parking, Supervision	80	Redstone	Yes
46	Wildlife viewing, hiking via Durray Way access, treasuring the exquisite beauty of surrounding mountains, soaking my feet in the water if there are not weird people around...	At least four - five times a week in the daytime.	The fact that in spite of horrific useage, 'thanks' to social media, the river continues to wind it's way to the ocean.	Many things: Good Luck.	NA	environs of Redstone	Yes
47	Soak and wildlife viewing	I live in Redstone so I go back and forth stopping when I see wildlife. I soak infrequently.	That it's a natural spring in the river, that wildlife congregate in the area and that people enjoy the soaking and river there	Easier access from road so it doesn't erode hillside.	68	Redstone	Yes
48	In the past I have used the penny hot springs for soaking but more often I use the parking to access the climbing area across the road	I do not use Penny Hot Springs anymore	Free & natural	Just like hanging Lake, this area has become way overused. Tourists come in and don't know how to treat the natural environment I've seen people bring glass bottles, litter, etc. and have seriously degraded the area. I think I should be closed to public use because people don't know how to use natural areas respectfully and they are trashing it.	34	New Castle CO	No
49	Soak and medicinal reasons	When there are people not there which is almost never now	Sweet quiet of soaking in the surrounding beauty and the warmth of the water ...	Rules and the ability for one person to arrange the rocks so that you get the perfect temperature exactly what Roy used to do. Set limitations of the amount of people who can be there at one time .	58	Carbondale / Redstone	No

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50	Digging and building pools with our kids - soaking, chatting, and snacking.	Late afternoons and evenings every time we visit the area. At least twice a month depending on the season. It's a big reason we stayed in Carbondale for four nights this August summer trip with family. In spring, we stayed in Redstone for three nights to be able to go to the springs in our way home. Let it be as is reasonable!	That is rugged, largely unregulated, yet remarkably utopian.	Other than reinforcing the road and maintaining any basic current structures for critical safety, absolutely nothing.	37	Denver	No
51	Used to soak over fifty years ago when there was the little shack with the pool inside. Since the hippies ruined it, just once in awhile we might stop to look at the bighorn sheep or elk.	No specific time, just if we see wildlife and have a moment to stop and watch a few minutes.	It provides winter feed for deer, elk, and bighorns.	Nothing	69	2 or 3 miles north of the hot springs	Yes
52	I do not soak in the springs since it was bulldozed in the 70s I find the lack of homogenized heat and the silty bottom unpleasant. I love observing the elk and sheep from the highway and the pullout. I really appreciate that others love to soak there.	I seldom stop there.	I love the history, I love the positive aspects of the freedom of "naturism" and clothing optional bathing. I relish the diversity and plethora of fascinating natural resources at the springs area. Scenic, wildlife, geological, cultural (from miners to hippy) and the flourishing peach tree in the parking lot (Which is endangered by the overuse)	Vehicle access= extremely dangerous and needs signs (possibly flashing yellow warning light) Parking= some creative solution Bather Access= extremely dangerous and could be ameliorated by (1) signs directing users to a SINGLE developed stairway (2) constructing a descent out of massive stone steps (esthetic and practical but not good for snow and ice) that are large and wide enough for 2-3 people to descend/ascend at the same time (3) Consider an expanded metal stairway (not esthetic but practical) so the snow and ice can fall through the stairs and include handrail. Endeavor to preserve clothing option. Consider all sanitation options knowing that trash disposal and outhouse represent constant challenges of maintenance and abuse. Consider docent program with volunteers "Friends of Penny Hot Springs" or similar program. Consider methods of improving summer hot water flows and distribution knowing that (1) the better it is the more enjoyable it is and the more overused it would become (2) whatever improvements are going to be washed out by high water	67	Carbondale	No
53	Not at all... To many people	Never	Scenic beauty	Add bathroom facilities... Improve parking	42	Crystal valley	Yes
54	I have soaked there once and used it for parking twice.	3 times over 5 years	the proximity to Filoha Meadows for the views of the meadow and the wildlife	restroom access	60	Redstone	Yes
55	Soaking, river access, wildlife viewing, fishing.	Daily (every 1 or 2 days), mornings or evenings.	When the lack of crowds makes for peaceful relaxation.	Remove the attraction from World Wide Web attractions and google searches, as the crowds in the last 5 years have made for a more trashed and less enjoyable experience for all	33	Carbondale	Yes
56	soak in three hot springs	early August each year	natural environment	safer access to parking area from highway. shore up the steep cliff to prevent erosion, make steps out of stone for safer access	58	Phoenix AZ	No
57	I don't,	I don't.	N/A	Can't make informed comment	63	Pitkin County	Yes
58	I do not but it is a part of the Highway 133 culture.	I drive by it.	It is low key in the spirit of Roy Rickus.	Keep it as it is! Don't start thinking.	64	Crystal River Country Estates	Yes
59	soak, wildlife viewing	when there are fewer people there	that it's FREE	nothing	72	Redstone	Yes
60	Soaking	1 time per month, evening	The peacefulness and meeting new people	Cleanliness but nothing else	33	Carbondale	No
61					72	Carbondale	No



#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
62	soak	weekends	remoteness, no fee	nothing	35	Silt	No
63	I use the area to soak and to view wildlife.	I visit about once or twice a month, usually in the evenings (or sometimes at dawn because it's less crowded then)	It's a great place to soak in a natural hot spring that's only a short drive away from my house. And it's free.	I'm not sure... the main issue for me is overcrowding, but at this point I think it's too late to do anything about that since so many people know about it, and it's not fair to exclude anyone	28	Carbondale	No
64	soak feet	9 am and 5 pm, once a month	NOT DEVELOPED	NOTHING	40	carbondale	No
65	I use this area to wind down after a long day at work. I grew up in Carbondale, and it has always been a place that I can escape in nature for free.	I visit penny once a week after dark.	I love that it's free and changes based on the landscape of the river. I also appreciate that it is a gathering place for all. I also like that I can be naked there without offense to anyone.	Now that it has been exposed on social media, I don't go during the day when families are there.	28	Carbondale	Yes
66	Soak with family.	Once a month during daytime hours	River access while soaking. Raw, not fancy.	Reservations only. Path improvement	42	Carbondale	No
67	Soaking and climbing	Evening and once a month	friendliness of users	Depth of the pools but I like that they are hand built	27	Carbondale	No
68	I like to soak in mornings, rearrange rocks, hang with friends, use as a swimming hole in summer	Once or twice a month at differnt times	I love that its free and beautiful and you meet cool people	Nothing really Take it off google maps. Maybe add stairs for older people.	43	Cdale	No
69	soak, climbing access	every couple months, any time of day	it's free! its natural. easy access. great community	wish it was easier to move boulders around and shape pools, less garbage	25	carbondale	No
70	Occasionally for wildlife viewing	A few times a year but I drive by on almost a daily basis as a resident of the Redstone area.	The river and surrounding area at Filoha Meadows, and the wildlife	Make the access from parking lot to the springs safer, provide sanitary facilities, clean up human waste, Try to slow highway traffic in the area to make it safer for entering and exiting vehicles.	75	Mountain Lion Way on east side of the Crystal River Valley	Yes
71	Soak	Once every few months, usually during the afternoon	The unregulated, natural atmosphere of the hot springs	Perhaps a path down that is manicured periodically. Nothing like a paved path, but something less treacherous	30	Carbondale	No
72	Soak, swim.	1x/month. Morning, evening, night, whenever.	It's Free! It's a community resource.	Nothing!	32	Carbondale	No
73	I like the organic feeling of it. I would hate to see picnic tables & steps down to the rivet	I used to go a lot. Now at least a few times a year.	The beauty & freedom	Nothing	70	Carbondale	No
74	Mostly soaking in pools and climbing	2ish times a month. Mostly late at night.	The all natural feeling and the ability to work in the pools	Not much.	25	Marble co	No
75	Soak, wildlife viewing, people watching	3 times a year- used to visit more often but it's been crowded, not family friendly and people leave trash so we rarely go anymore	That it's free, like the Ute intended. The wildlife. That it's undeveloped	As a native, I would like less people in Colorado, and no entitled rude loud littering people who don't know how to behave outdoors. Leave no trace should be taught in every Colorado school. Signage? A ranger? Permits? I don't know- Colorado is choking on its growth	57	Front range	No
76	I have brought my family down to the hot springs during the day for a magical experience of plunging in the river and warming up in the springs.	We have gone a few times during the day. We go about once a year!	It's a natural phenomenon that my entire family can enjoy. It is an amazing place to bring friends visiting the area. (Avalanche hot springs is often sold out and Glenwood is a zoo.)	I enjoy it as it is. It in't how it "used to be" and never will be but, it is still a great place. By keeping it "as is" it may keep the numbers down.	44	El Jebel	No
77	soak	less than 5x/year, afternoon	views	honestly, less usage, smaller crowds	47	carbondale	No
78	i use penny area to soak and swim.	i used to go every day in the AM, then it got overrun by tourists and looky lous' so i only go very early AM when it is only locals.	I love most the hot water and engineering the water to be just right. the view isn't too shabby either.	i would add a trash can, and a non-denominational shrine so that visitors know that it is a holy place and deserves the respect of a holy place.	36	carbondale	No

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
79	For soaking, river access, and wildlife viewing.	Once a week. Either around sunrise or sunset.	It is an untouched, wild hot spring. One of the few of Colorado that is accessible.	NOTHING! Leave it alone.	26	Old Snowmass	No
80	Family soaking. Usually in the fall and spring.	Morning. Very infrequently because it's gotten too busy and trashed.	It's natural and in the river.	1. Quit writing about it in local magazines and papers and keep it a local/word of mouth spot. 2. Make the parking area smaller so fewer people can be there at any given time. 3. Signage for leave no trace behind	33	Carbondale	No
81	Soak and socialize	M-F, 3 to 6 times a year when the river is low enough.	Natural, rocks making pools.	Trash, access.	38	Carbondale	No
82	Soaking. Sometimes field trips with students.	Twice a month, mostly in Summer.	Free access. Like it always has been. Untouched.	Trash. Maybe vaulted toilet or changing station.	40	Glenwood	No
83	Soak and relax	A few times a year. Usually in the morning or afternoon	It's location and undeveloped state	Make sure it is kept clean and respected	52	Carbondale	No
84	Soak, River Access, Climbing Access	In the winter on average 1/week. Generally late at night.	Undeveloped wild nature, free, clothing optional, that I have been coming here for over 20 years.	Remove the google maps listing.	33	Paonia	No
85	Soak	2x year in evening	Free access and community feel	Nothing	57	Gypsum	No
86	Fishing, wildlife viewing	As a local, I drive past it 8-16 times a week. I pull off 5-10 times per year. I pass by in the mornings and evenings mainly, and witness a lot of illegal camping activities (they overnighted there again last night), without enforcement by Pitkin County or USFS. People are partying there at 2AM, driving away drunk and stoned, and where's Sheriff Joe and his posse?	The view of Filoha meadows and the elk and sheep herds. The hot springs themselves are fairly dirty and gross--like most of the people who frequent them. This survey should ask what do people most dislike about PHS as well--the survey seems to be typical PC OST method of gathering public input that supports their goal of development of more places. You would hear many locals say they dislike the massive uptick in usage, usage well past reasonable hours such as midnight, the party atmosphere of the main demographic of users, which are mainly people in their 20's who contribute next to nothing to the local economy, and the traffic hazards.	Access and traffic to PHS should not be increased. People use the word "improve" loosely--like the word "progress"--when returning places to a more natural state instead of developing these places is often a much greater "improvement". Bringing in more people only ruins most places, and PHS is already a magnet for transients. More people will only create more problems. Tim, the CDOT official in charge of 133, said he viewed PHS as part of the John Denver ideal when he moved here---and I agree. The public should have access there, and it should be safe. Then Tim went on to say that perhaps steps should be built and the property should be lit at night---and I'm sure John Denver rolled over in his grave. It's apparent that Pitco wants to complete the Grand Sterilization of the Crystal River Valley with the proposed bike path. If you develop and light PHS--and the ancient wintering grounds of the most important elk herd in our valley, then you may as well build a landing strip right there though Filoha and start flying everybody in. Leave the access as is--wild, like our valley. Limit access by the current amount of parking. Close it at 10 or 11 PM, and ENFORCE IT. Discourage trespassing and other illegal activity by putting up proper signage without excuses from all the different governmental agencies. This is a reasonable and inexpensive compromise that will keep the most people--and wildlife-- happy.	50	Redstone, Colorado	Yes
87	soaking	1-2 times a year, afternoon/evening	lack of development, scenery, how "old Colorado" it feels for somewhere right on the highway.	the path down to the springs to prevent erosion.	39	Crested Butte	No
88	Soaking and swimming	Much less since it became so crowded but once upon a time I was there probably 3 times a week all times of day	It's wild, free, publicly maintained, generally an excellent example of of anarchy at its best.	Start spreading rumors about dangerous water quality to turn tourists away. Or pay keepers of the spring. Sort of lifeguards, sort of ambassadors who can call the cops when needed and suggest people clean up after themselves.	41	Carbondale	No
89	soaking and river access	a few times per year, usually in not busy days/times	That it is undeveloped	Put in a toilet	60	Carbondale	No
90	Occasional soak	Three times a year	The rock formation to the north west, naked people, lightning storms, the sacred yampah.	Perhaps the spring could use a few more rocks to contain the yampah	24	West Glenwood Springs	No
91	Soak, swim	Depends on time of year, at least 20 times a year.	The scenary and natural surroundinga	Nothing	50	Carbondale	No



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92	Park & soak.	Depends on the season. Often in winter, once or twice a month. Mostly in the evening, sometimes daytime if returning from marble. Summer less often, once a month. Daytime.	Views, free, natural, proximity to home, on the way home from CB, variety of users	Seems to evolve, a little different every time I visit. I would love a hot springs conditions Facebook page so I know if it's worth the trip.	42	Carbondale	No
93	Soaking, wild life viewing	Afternoons in the winter	The native landscape, and community involvement	Pack out trash!	41	Glenwood springs	No
94	Climbing access, soak	Once a month	The remote area and the natural element of it	Take it off the internet	28	Glenwood	No
95	Soaking	Twice a year. Evening	Scenery and naturalness	The steps are sketchy. And there is always trash.	35	Aspen	No
96	Soaking	6-12x times a year. In the morning as it's quieter given the increase in use.	Free, Natural, Local's choice. Beautiful land and views.	Improve: moral respect of the land; IE signs and strong peer support in NO littering. Keep it clean. Change: how populated it has become.	37	Carbondale	No
97	Soaking only	A couple of times a year. Daytime with my kiddo and nighttime with friends.	How it's completely natural, free, and how the hot springs changes every visit based on river flow and what rock pools visitors have created. Also we always meet cool and interesting people on our visits.	I wouldn't change a thing. I've never had an issue with parking.	44	Basalt	No
98	Soak	Early morning, daytime, late evening	Hot springs, natural area	Management to avoid trash, excrement, crowding, smoking, misuse that destroys natural beauty	59	225 Cherokee Lane, Carbondale, CO (Swiss Village subdivision)	Yes
99	Soak	1-2 times a month at night	The hot springs...	Nothing. Management would change the atmosphere of the hot springs.	31	Carbondale	No
100	wildlife viewing	6-8 times per year, mostly in winter and spring	The ability to watch bighorn sheep and elk from the highway pullout	My biggest concern is sanitation. As with any high use recreation area without restroom facilities, human waste is an issue. A restroom provided nearby, but not right at the springs with walking access to the pools would be the most preferred option.	62	Lower Sewell tracks	Yes
101	Relaxing soak	Twice a year for a few days in a row.	The relaxing atmosphere and the interesting people we meet there.	If possible, the trail down to the hot springs from the parking lot.	57	Parker, CO	No
102	Soak	Several times a year. All hours	Natural splendor and hot water	I wouldn't	40	Carbondale	No
103	soak	2 times a year late afternoon evening	free natural hot springs	nothing like it the way it is	44	Carbondale	No
104	soaking	maybe once a month...no specific time of day.	Its free and in a beautiful area	The access from the road is sketchy at best, the pools could be formally constructed in a way that still allows people to control water temperature (little valves or pieces of wood that could be placed or removed) but would make them cleaner and more comfortable. I envision rocks set with mortar for the walls and the floor.	36	Glenwood	No
105	Climbing then soaking if there is room.	Once a week during the early spring, and fall	I love the river elements and it's wild nature.	Need to improve / add tubs for more than a few folk. One group can hoard the limited area, "partying". More policing should take place because of drinking and weed smoking.	36	Redstone Old	Yes
106	Soaking	Once or twice a year.	Location, convenience, and local charm.	Slope down to springs.	59	Snowmass	Yes
107	Soak	Very rarely now since it is so crowded	Beautiful setting	Less people, steps down to the river, signage, trash cans	50	Carbondale	No

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
108	We will park and jump in the hot springs for an occasional soak. We have a small group that meets up there for a polar plunge on New Years Day.	Two times a year in the afternoons	It feels adventurous, especially during the winter months	I love the rustic feeling about the place but the stairs down the embankment should be rebuilt. They are somewhat treacherous during the winter months.	50=	Emma	No
109	Parking, soaking, fishing, river access + swimming, picnic, social gathering	Weekday evenings 3-5 times each year	It is very accessible in location and free to the public	More parking along the highway. Although some changes may be necessary, I think that Penny should be kept "wild" and built up by community members yearly. Permanent pools should not be created. The "wild" nature of Penny is part of its' charm.	26	Glenwood Springs	No
110	Skinny Dipping, Relaxing, Whitewater Boating, Wildlife Viewing, Leaf Peeping	12 months a Year, Depending on seasons, 5-6 times a month, Quiet Evenings, Early Morning, Full Moon, Winter	The dramatic vista of the narrows and filoa meadows, Natural healing hot water, wildlife sanctuary, Crystal River	The construction of the railroad and then HW133 destroyed the natural caverns at the base of the cliffs where the hot springs originally emerged as reported in early area geological reports. This resource should be improved to better utilize the healing mineral water similar to the improvements at the Avalanche Ranch, the Strawberry Hot Springs or Orvis HS The water should be piped to enter newly created deeper pools from the bottom to filter up and mix with the cooler river water through gravel lined beds, The pools should be lined and bulwarked to resist the spring time river surges. The county should hire a staff to monitor and patrol for proper etiquette and reasonable access to promote shared public access and community harmony	62	Missouri heights and Marble	No
111	Soaking, river access, fishing	2/month, afternoons	Local's hiding spot, undeveloped	Stairs	32	New Castle	No
112	River access, wildlif	Several times a year	Beauty and unique	Needs more responsible usage. People leave a mess.	67	El Jebel	No
113	Soak, river access (and I do park there while doing those things)	I used to visit a lot (several times a month) years ago, but now it is very infrequently. Maybe 2 times per year.	Soaking and the scenery	Add some sanitation facilities. Limit the parking area. Build stairs down the bank.	62	Missouri Heights	No
114	I use the hot springs regularly, living 15 minutes away. I do observe feces in the parking lot, and trash in the springs, plus traffic from tourists.	As a result of the above, I will usually hit the springs at dawn.	The nature, the river, the quiet, my ability to soak clothes free.	Education of the tourists. Trash cans. Safety from drunkards in the afternoon/evening.	46	Carbondale	No
115	Medicinal and recreational use. Hot springs are meant to be healing.	Not that much anymore. Too crowded. Early morning (before 6am) or late evening (6pm) or when the weather is terrible.	The healing properties of a hot soak :)	Less tourism...	30	Carbondale	No
116	I don't use the springs anymore but I live directly below them on the Crystal River.		I'm glad to see free access to natural hot springs.	Maintained bathrooms!!! Permanent structure would be best. All the fecal material comes directly to the river by my house.	65	12954 Hwy 133	Yes
117	Wildlife Viewing ( in the past) But due to it becoming so popular, I no longer pull over to view there. It's too crowded.	Not any more. Did years ago though. I dislike advertising which brings more people into an area that cannot hold anymore people.	I love the view when you come around the curve and see nothing but the open field and the wildlife. I've seen Big Horn Sheep, usually about 12-14, and up to 100 herd of Elk. What's cool is the Elk and Sheep are only several hundred yards apart. What a gift!	This opinion( I'm sure) won't count in your survey. I'd get rid of public access to the Hot Springs. It's dangerous to come around the bend going 50 and have a car pulling out or suddenly stopping in front of you to go into the parking area.	65	Near Redstone	Yes



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118	Wildlife and river viewing.	Drive by almost daily as I live right down the road.	Connection between the public and the river environment. Its community history. Habitat for wildlife/ wildlife viewing.	Control/ address impacts to shoreline and in river habitat. Install sanitary facilities to eliminate water quality impacts. re-configure access and associated parking to eliminate traffic safety threats. Install river educational information.	70	266 Cherokee Lane, Carbondale, CO	Yes
119	Soak and view the human and natural scenes	a.m.	being immersed in nature	Add composting toilet just above river level. Install attractive and strong railing. Maybe put safe steps in the tricky spots. Could there be a river level trail to the new OST property? Could the flow of thermal water be increased into the natural pools.	82	Carbondale	No
120	Live near it. Can't use it to may people and dirt	Pass it 4 times a day	Nothing anymore	Close it	58	Redstone	Yes
121	Mostly climbing and soaking, some fishing days.	Once a month, afternoons after Climbing near by.	Part of the river system.	Needs pools that fit more than a few people. Have had a few experiences of individuals hoarding the good spots.	50	Colorado	No
122	Soak	Few times a year	It's natural and free	Nothing, any "improvement " will increase usage and degrade the experience and ultimately destroy the natural aspect	50	Carbondale	No
123	I stopped by this last week (weekday) a local man yelled at me and my family for trying to get my family near warm water. The mans quote was, you come here, hangout for hours a day, then you can earn the right to be near warm water.	Once, midday. I don't plan on coming back. I'd rather go else where.	Really liked the local	Make it so more the one local guy can hog the main springs and dams off the hot water with plastic.	40	Grand Junction	No
124	I live a few miles down the road and use it regularly for healing soaks for my chronic illness, as well as date times with my spouse, and soaking with friends, enjoying the views and wildlife.	3-4 times a month, at various times of day, trying to go when it's likely to be less busy—which is increasingly hard to do.	The connection to nature and soothing ability to relax in such a magnificent place with little effort since I have a disability and can't physically reach many such places of wildreness and natural beauty.	Fewer people. No drugs or alcohol. No loud, obnoxious people. (I know, impossible, but ... you asked:) Safer steps to get down to the river.	47	In neighborho od near KOA.	Yes
125	soak, climbing access, wildlife viewing	20+ days a year, typically morning	that it's not improved and not perfect	People complaining about how the water isn't always at the perfect temperature, people leaving trash especially glass usually broken and cigarette butts	47	Bill Creek, Crystal River Valley	Yes
126	soak	once or twice per year, afternoon or evening	free and uncontrolled access to a gorgeous setting and hot spring	no dogs allowed	30	leadville, co	No
127	soak	3-4 times per year. when we lived in Carbondale we went more often but that was 20 years ago.	access to hot springs with great views. when you can soak in peace and quiet.	Minimize the parking area to help limit the number of people using the springs at one time.	50	pitkin county	No
128	Soak	Several times a year	Good hot springs, built and maintained by local community.	Ban people from hanging out and drinking there. It should be a family friendly spot, not the party which it sometimes devolves into.	36	Snowmass	No
129	parking, viewing	5-10 times a year	It's a "cool Colorado thing"	forest service bathroom, a street light in parking area, permanent steps going down to the hot springs.	47	Marble	No
130	Soak	2	The beauty, the freedom, the people	Having a trash can at the parking area	49	Marble	No
131	Climbing and soaking	Night. Morning. 1-4 times per month	Natural hot springs for free.	No dogs	36	Aspen/Carb ondale	No
132	Soak during a vacation	We were there once but would visit again. Late afternoon.	Unique, beautiful- while we were there we did not feel like tourists which is what will bring us back.	Nothing	44	Door County, WI	No
133	Picnics and viewing wildlife while soaking.	Afternoon to early evening.	It's a natural hot spring. Surroundings do not look like they are planned and constructed by committees.	Needs to be patrolled by law enforcement. What used to be a peaceful and family-oriented area, is now sometimes over-crowded with alcohol being heavily consumed.	60	Aspen and Gunnison County	Yes

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134	Soak, climbing access on adjacent USFS land, wildlife viewing	Monthly, daytime or at dusk	Ample wildlife viewing opportunities, rust aesthetic, unique history	I have begun to spend less and less time at Penny Hot Springs due to concerns about petty crime, odd or bad behavior by other visitors, and crowding. Parking and highway sight lines are poor and make for dangerous traffic conditions. Some visitors frequently smoke or drink in the pools, leave clothing and cigarette butts behind, act inappropriately (resulting in calls in Sheriff's Office), and generally make for a poor experience for others. I wouldn't bring children to the springs at dusk or night hours.	29	Carbondale	No
135	Soak	I don't visit very often due to the massive volume of people	I have fallen out of love with it	Charge people to park and use the facilities	47	Snowmass Village	No
136	Occasional soak, more so in the past	Day only	Don't love it any more	fewer people	60	Carbondale	No
137	Once a year	Pass through several times a year; stop by once	The hot springs	Becoming too crowded - party zone at times	37	Grand Junction	No
138	Soak Kayak the narrows.	Evening one a month	The wildlife It's rural affect	Diagonal designated parking CDOT needs signage from both directions that cars may pull out Outhouse Informational signs about geothermal and wildlife with a request to limit your use of the hot springs to 1 1/2 hours. Signs for no overnight parking	54	10 miles up the Crystal	Yes
139	Do not use it. Too crowded.	0	The natural aspect of it.	Close to the public	67	Marble	No
140	Dont use since it got too busy and dangerous	Used to go a few times per summer	Fresh air natural setting	Bathroom facilities for sanitation and safety sake	34	Redstone	Yes
141	soak	rarely-evening	ez access by the river	safer parking	50	Glenwood Spgs.	No
142	Primary use is observing wildlife across the river and climbing access to the climbing areas across the river and north and west of the Hot Springs.	Infrequently	3 Particularly in winter and spring I like to watch the Elk and Bighorn Sheep from the highway pullout to Penny Hot Springs. This pullout also provides parking for rock climbers going to the towers on the east side of the river and the rock climbing area north and west of the Hot Springs.	Open Space should not feel obligated to provide passing tourists with entertainment and a free hot tub. I oppose allowing Penny Hot Springs to become any larger or accommodate more parking or people. This area has become an attractive nuisance for which enough is enough! Improving the pedestrian ramp down to the springs and providing a nearby trash can at the bottom would be welcome additions. However, before OST commits to providing an outhouse anywhere on this property, a scientific program of water quality samples above and below the springs should be taken to either confirm or deny the need.	80	Redstone	Yes
143	I especially love penny hot springs for soaking in the evening, watching meteor showers, celebrating birthdays.... or the anniversary of when I met my boyfriend there (it's been 5 years). We always enjoy a soak together.	Usually late afternoon and evening. We try to go once a month.	The natural rock landscapes pools. I love finding random rocks to lay my head on in the pools. The sounds of the river. The nice cold water for taking a "cold dip". Everything. Always grateful to the "penny hot springs ferries" that work as engineers to get the springs "dialed in". With shovels and man power.	On my birthday 2 years ago we went to the springs, and I hate to identify, but some adolescent Hispanics came and left soda cans and pizza boxes. When we found out what happened I ran up to their cars and they sped away. It's rare, but we all end up being custodians for the springs.	35	Aspen	No
144	Wildlife viewing	Morning and afternoon drive by	The natural beauty of Filoha meadows, elk, bighorn sheep,	Purchase adjoining property for bathroom facilities, parking and ranger station. Limit access when crowded, parking and driving hazards, no overnight parking, no urination or defecation, hours of operation (open at 8am, close at 10pm), better signage,	65	Redstone	Yes
145	No, access is too steep.	0	the big horn sheep and elk herds	if you provide amenities more people will come, so leave it alone	68	Redstone	Yes
146	soak, wildlife viewing, fishing	mid-day when it's the warmest	that it's a natural wonder in the valley; makes me feel the wilderness	trash bins and port-a-potty	66	Crystal Valley	Yes
147	Soak	Quarterly; usually late afternoon	Natural surroundings; lack of infrastructure; free access	Easier access to pools	56	Carbondale	No



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148	Wildlife viewing	A couple of times a year we stop by if we are driving past.	That it is protected! I would love to see the orchids.	The parking area is awful. It is so dangerous. Too many people trying to park in a small area and then when they back out they back into Highway 133.	57	Carbondale	No
149	I soak in the Hot Springs several time's a year.	I try and go once a week when the pools are good.	I love the views of the area and the Crystal River.	More signs about packing out of trash. needs to also be in Spanish and no dog's allowed. Maybe place a bear proof trash can. Oh and no bottles.	44 and have been going here for over 25 years	I live in Glenwood Springs	No
150	Occasional soak	Rarely - too crowded	Spectacular scenery and wildlife. Crystal River.	Too many yahoos have spoiled the place. Adult supervision is required now. Too may users drinking and driving and littering.	60	Redstone	Yes
151	Soaking	Occasional daytime natural beayt	Natural beauty, location in river, originating source of mineral water	Walkway down, trash and garbage disposal, parking, maintenance , cleanliness	66	Redstone	Yes
152	Soaking with my children, picnics and playing in the river.	4 or 5 times per month in the summer. All times of day but mostly mornings and mid-day.	I love that it is natural and free with no infrastructure and feels very much "unmanaged". The locals take great care of the hot springs and I don't want to see any big changes.	I would like to see any marketing of this special place cease.	39	Crystal Valley	Yes
153	I drive by it and try to steer clear of all the tourists... :) I will visit the spot when the weather turns cold.	Once a week on my way home in the winter.	It truly is a beautiful and unique feature of our valley.	Stop marketing it from Carbondale. More patrol to stop people from camping there.	31	Redstone Blvd.	Yes
154	I used to frequent the hot springs as a soaker. However it has gotten to busy and abused for my liking	Don't use it anymore due to too many people	It is a natural phenomenon with breathtaking views of open space and wild life	I think it has reached a point where it needs some kind of management or informed/educated use. There is often trash, including glass. There are so many cars and people that it can sometimes be a hazard on HWY 133	43	1.2 miles N of Penny	Yes
155	Soaking	Couple times a summer, early, on Friday	Free soak!	Less trash, crowds. People warning he that it's hot ...no shit, it's a hot spring.	26	Carbondale	No
156	I'm a former occasional soaker.	I don't use the hot springs anymore. Too many cars and people.	Nothing at this time. I used it during the late '60s and early '70s.	Fill the parking area with the remains of mudslides and make it off limits. That curve is extremely dangerous and I've seen many near accidents in the area.	79	Redstone	Yes
157	A soak after hard activity and/or after a long winter day.	Several times a year, mostly at sunset or later.	Easy access, free, layout	I don't know if I'd change anything, to be honest.	28	Aspen, CO	No
158	Just a time to relax	A few times a month. Early am	How it's just there with no red tape	Nothing.	44	Carbondale	Yes
159	Soaking swimming and climbing in the narrows	Depending on the season, twice a month.	That you do not ever have to deal with people policing you. It's relaxed and Elf contained.	Some way of making people take more care. It attracts people out of state that trash the place, especially around hunting season. It's a hard question to answer.	27	Carbondale	No
160	Soak, wildlife viewing	everyday, live hereNature	wildlife viewing	Better trail down to hotsprings	69	Redstone	Yes
161	I used to go there long before it was popular. I would never go there now	I drive by every day	The bighorn sheep across the river	Address the oversized parking area. Maybe install Jersey barriers so that there are just entrances at the ends. The parking area is dangerous and a disgusting campground/picnic area.	53	Redstone	Yes

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162	Wildlife viewing.	About one time per month, times vary.	As wintering grounds for elk and bighorn sheep.	If the public will continue to be allowed use of the hot springs, it would be good if a bathroom could be made available. A lot of people stop there, and there is a shortage of public bathrooms in the Crystal Valley	75	Near Redstone	No
163	Climbing access and soak	Every 3 weeks or so. In the summer for climbing access, in the winter for hot spring access.	The fact that it is free and road side.	Access trail. And idk if this is at all reasonable (I assume no) but some kind of structures to help maintain the pools or at least direct the flow of scalding water.	26	Carbondale	No
164	I've stopped a few times for a soak.	Only 3-4 times, usually weekend afternoons	Beautiful spot, natural, not built up	Garbage, overcrowding, pets, general disrespect of the environment	32	Aspen	No
165	Soak	Once per year	Views. Old school.	Improved the springs for locals but don't turn into a tourist spot	49	El jebel	No
166	Soak when I'm camping at Avalanche Creek campground	probably an hour no more than 3 times in two weeks I'm there	It's undeveloped,natural feel	maybe put some slow down caution-road- signs for cars backing out from lot or create a circle,I can't remember if there is room to turn around in the lot,I was there last year will be back in Sept. for a couple week doing backpacking wilderness photography Avalanche cr tr to the lake and area.	63	Covington Ky	No
167	Park to soak!	Very seldom in the afternoon.	The Hot Springs!	I would eliminate clothes.	65	Aspen	No
168	soaking	4-5 times a year	It's natural, it's free and it's not regulated	nothing	55	Carbondale	No
169	Soaking	2-3 times per year	The no cost, primitive nature of the springs.	A sign suggesting how to park correctly so the most visitors can soak without stupidly parking on the highway	50	Glenwood Springs, CO	No
170	Soak, wildlife viewing.	Not very often any more, too many people with loud music and smoking pot. Difficult to bring children there now.	Great place to view wildlife.	Ban music, (designated quiet area) ban smoking pot, ban glass containers, stop advertising it in big magazines that attract a lot of people.	38	Carbondale	No
171	I have visited once or twice over 34 years. However I have been driving past the Springs at least 2 times a month for the past 8 years.	I drive pass this area mid morning and early evening.	Nothing really. It is hard to access both in parking and the hike down to the water.	Close it... It is over used and is a danger to motorists driving in either direction on 133.	63	Basalt	No
172	Soak	Visit 10-12 times a year during the day	Easy to access, free, meet fun people	People leaving trash	41	Carbondale	No
173	Soak and RELAX :)	Randomly about twice a year usually on our way through.	The proximity to the beautiful mountains and ease of access with parking.	Too many people, and last time I was there, there was a creepy guy with his hands in his pants looking at women (girls actually).	33	Blue Lake - Carbondale , CO	No
174	Soak , fish but now there is too many people...	Sunset	Now it is trashed and the rocks are moved bu anyone who pleases ... Used to be you only moved the rocks with Roys permission now he Stopped because if the disrespect of new comers	Restricted it ! Only open certain times of year with a hardline on respect of our earth .	58	Carbondale	No
175	soak	a few times a year during the day	low-key, free, beautiful	somehow make sure people are respecting and not trashing the area	54	mid-valley	No
176	soaking.	2-3 times a months. Usually going in the morning now due to overcrowding in the evening.	deep hot clear pools of water. ideally with no one in them.	put up a sign explaining the importance of keeping our natural resources clean. providing a trash can at the parking area for peoples beer cans and tampons. So at least when they don't pick it up, I have a place to dispose of it for them. I would also not allow tourist to visit, because tourism has gotten out of hand and has led to the destruction of our state. Local examples are graffiti at hanging lakes, surface human poops everywhere at snowmass lake, and overcrowding at conundrum hot springs. Penny hot springs has been trashed on all of our visits in the last year and it started getting bad about 2-3 years ago. Tourist do not know or care to know how to respect where they visit, thus they shouldn't be allowed to.	30	carbondale	No
177	To soak with my son, husband and friends.	Maybe 3-5 times a year, spring and fall mostly.	That it is a bit hidden and free, love showing this to people visiting.	No nudity	31	Glenwood	No

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178	Soaking and fishing - sometimes at the same time.	Once a month.	That there are no manmade structures and that it is natural. No fees. Self-regulating.	Try to make sure there is no camping. Awkward when there is a person cooking beans next to where you are taking a soak.	39	Basalt	Yes
179	To soak in the hot springs, as well as fish the deep channel just beyond the pools.	Usually at night, when it is not so crowded. I'd say once or twice a week	Not sure how to answer this one.	Less people, ha.	36	Redstone	Yes
180	Therapeutic soak, connect with friends and inner community, watch the elk and sheep and trout	Not any more :( too crowded, swearing, smoking cigarettes, weed, too many people, too many strangers. maybe 2x year now, early morning. Used to go 10-12x year	HOT water and stunning views. Nature BOWLS me over	Code of conduct, stewardship	47	Carbondale	No
181	Hot Spring and bank fishing	once a week various times	it's free and a natural hot spring	garbage cans	50	carbondale	No
182	soak	when I am in the area, daytime, evenings during the week and weekends	Natural, not man made or man altered! It's free! It's wild and like it was when I was a child. Those people who dislike it, leave, which needs to occur... not everyone who knows about it should be there. Sometimes people are naked, that is ok. I also have a daughter and I am still ok with it. People are just being, they are not sexual, nor am I there with her in the dark. If people were to get out of hand, I would talk to and with them, but it has never occurred.	Nothing! Let this last gem of nature stay rustic, natural and un-governed.	40	Aspen	No
183	Soak! Always for the soaking!	Once a month or so and usually in the evenings or late night. I live in glenwood and frequent iron mountain but penny has a special spot in my heart	It's for locals! I LOVE that it is unmarked, and I love the inconsistencies. I love that we can move rocks and adjust the pools to our liking. I love that it is FREE	stairs to get up and down easier would be nice but beyond that it is perfect the way it is.	27	Glenwood Springs	No
184	Soaking in the early morning	once every 6 - 8 months due to the overload of people	the surrounding area and wildlife	the amount of people	69	Redstone Blvd.	Yes
185	Soak	Once a week, evenings	Free natural experience	People complaining about the ones who enjoy it. some are a little to "free" than others but just mind your own business and enjoy this beautiful place	47	Redstone	Yes
186	soak, wildlife viewing	mid mornimg and afternoon	Views and access to the hot water and river	steps down Do not use any more because of difficulty accessing the river bank safely	75	Redstone	Yes
187	We do not use it we live up the road from it.	I drive by atleast 2x a day	View and the wildlife you can see from there	Parking situation, people pull in and out of there like it is a parking lot not a HWY. It is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident. I have had to slam on my breaks several times from people turning last minute or pulling straight out	35	Redstone	Yes
188	Soak	Twice per year. Weekdays. Mid morning/Evening	To be right on the river	Be responsible to nature. ie-no trash Be respectful of others.	52	Missouri Heights	No
189	Soak at night after hunting	September-oct I'll go at Night after hunting	Looking at The stars	Sadly it's time to close. It's a traffic nightmare, people impact nightmare, and is unsafe	38	Carbondale	No
190	Soaking after back country skiing	2 or 3 times a year	Stupid question	Leave it alone. Don't spend any public money on it.	69	El Jebel	No
191	Soaking in the springs, swimming in the river, tying off an inner tube to float	As often as I can, in the early morning or late afternoon	It's a natural wonder that hasn't been exploited by humans as of yet	Establish a suitable parking area farther off the road and build a restroom or add a port-a-john	29	Keystone	No
192	I can't because leg injury prevents me from climbing down the hill.	As a student I visited after 8. As a working man weekend mornings or evenings.	The river swift & clean. the fields across the stream. Elk and Sheep occasionally under Elephant Mountain majesty. Filoha calling me.	Sanitation, Access with handrails and a culture of self controlling the occupancy.	69	Carbondale	No
193	wildlife viewing	2 times daily	Winter frost on trees on January mornings	Add public potty	74	Placita	Yes



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194	Soaking after skiing or hiking! Or a quick morning soak when no one is there.	Usually just a few times throughout the winter but just moved to redstone so I will be using it more often.	The fact that it's a FREE and NATURAL occurring hot spring with no light pollution or regulation.	Maybe placing a sign near the springs at the bottom stating reminders about littering, sharing the pools with others, and being respectful.	27	Redstone	Yes
195	Soaking	Recently less but at times once a week. All times of day.	Natural environment, wonderful waters.	No dogs allowed. No overnight camping. Trying to mitigate drinking, littering and disrespectful behavior.	34	Carbondale	No
196	I use it as a lunch spot for a picnic and a soak.	Approximately 5 times a year	The retro feel and the rugged beauty	Better posting of appropriate guidelines for visitors	46	Rifle	No
197	Soak picnic	As much as possible and ive been there all times of the day and night	Just the beauty and freedom of it	Dont change a thing its been that way for years and used to be not alot of people knew about it except locals	51	Glenwood	No
198	Soak	3x/year. Evening	Remoteness and non-commercialized	The safety	29	New Castle	No
199	Soak	Usually late afternoon/ evening 1/ month	Quiet, scenic warm water	Keep garbage and drunken/ loud behavior out	58	Carbondale	Yes
200	Watching the big horn sheep and elk who winter in the area is my primary use. Many years ago we were regular visitors to the hot springs waters.	All times of day when driving by. Occasionally stop to watch wildlife.	The beauty of the area and the wildlife.	Either figure out how to accommodate the hoards of people who use the hot springs with toilets and trash removal or close it all together.	75	Redstone	Yes
201	soak	not often usually too crowded	scenic free informal minimal development	not sure how to fix too popular	50	carbondale	No
202	soaking, parking, wildlife viewing	daily mostly afternoons some evenings	the meadow across the river and the viewing of the wildlife	signage stating pack in pack out, directions to Redstone for bathrooms, possible changing area, Highway signage stating HEAVY ROADSIDE ACTIVITY	62	Redstone, CO	Yes
203	soak, wildlife viewing, healing	winter	being able to soak when temps outside are below 0!		67	carbondale	No
204	Soak, wildlife viewing, stargazing.	Varies seasonally, average ~2 visits per month.	The critical elk and bighorn sheep habitat provided by Filoha Meadows. Lack of light pollution. The geothermal water.	Reduce the number of parking spots/potential visitors. eliminate overnight campers w/ generators, create a single path to the springs to reduce erosion and social trails.	32	Carbondale	Yes
205	Wild life view and hiking on the trail from Redstone which is across the river. The hiking on this trail is limited due to the wild life habitat.	twice in the summer.	I use to love the limited amount of people there but now it is a disaster!	Limit the amount of use.	74	Redstone	Yes
206	I used to go for healing purposes with friends before it became too popular via trip advisor. Now everyone knows the secret of the Penny which saddens me.	I would go anytime I possibly could. Loved it when I had it to myself on a Fall day.	It is pristine in beauty. It provides a place of healing with the river and hot springs. It is a place to gather with old friends and occasionally meet new folks. I love the Penny and how folks rally to maneuver the rocks to create the pools in community fashion.	It would be nice to see others respect the Penny by picking up trash left behind. Also maybe provide signage that promotes respect for the Crystal and the magical meadow across from Penny. Find a way to take it off Trip Advisor. Or maybe not work on the pools for a few years to discourage folks from over using what used to be previous natural gemstone of the Crystal Valley.	48	Carbondale and New Castle	No
207	Soaking in hot springs	I used to visit a lot but it's become so crowded that I rarely go	Hot water, spectacular scenery, wildlife	Improved etiquette around trash and rubbish removal, less press and publicity	40	Redstone	Yes
208	Soaking	Evenings and early mornings and I don't go anymore because it's so crowded	The scenery around	Somehow control the numbers or make a more permanent feature.	47	Snowmass-Lazy Glen	No
209	River access, fishing.	Very infrequently.	An area to view wildlife.	Better parking. HWY signs alerting drivers to location to avoid sudden turns and potential accidents. Sanitation facilities. Signs informing users of the rules regarding wildlife and respect for the environment. Prohibiting camping.	80	Redstone	Yes
210	soak in warm and cool water	once or twice a year	the open and free nature. it is undeveloped and feels raw.	Put responsibility on users to keep it clean and take care of space.	40	Carbondale	No

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
211	SOAK + wildlife viewing	10 times/year - any time of day.	rustic, wild, beautiful, and the springs are hot and relaxing	enact a social media ban - no posting about Penny on FB, Instagram or Twitter. Joking aside, I worry about the impact of increased numbers at Penny - people littering, pooping/peeing, camping, etc. I also like that it's so unnoticeable from the highway (ie no portapotty, rubbish bins, etc). How's that for a non-answer?	38	boulder	No
212	Soak	Not often, it is a drive for me and is always overcrowded. Maybe 3x per summer.	It's free.	Size of the pools and pool depth.	28	Glenwood Springs	No
213	I've gone down and soaked in the hot springs...usually a few times in the summer.	daytime/afternoon A few times a year.	That it is organic. The pools change due to the river current and also all the people that come and add rocks or rearrange them. That it is free and accessible.	I would make the path down better and with hand rails so not so difficult.	69	Crystal River Park	Yes
214	I don't	I don't	I don't	Get rid of access to Penny. Not regulated, who cleans it? Brings strange people	NA	NA	Yes
215	Soaking with family and access to NF hiking & camping	Twice a month morning or evening	Location, accessibility, landscape	I wish less people knew about it...but I suppose since my time machine needs a new flux capacitor I'll have to deal with it. ;-)	44	Snowmass Village	Yes
216	clean up	after 4pm	it's a unique, natural, and accessible feature on 133.	PHS is often used as a 'van-life' campground all year. Human waste, dog waste, food waste, and general litter. As a watershed issue and a resource protection issue, this is something needing to be addressed. Penny Campground is indicative of a bigger issue in Pitkin County: there is no county ordinance addressing #vanlife - aside from OST rules which aren't clear on camping in vehicles at this site. Complaints of 'clothing optional' conflicts are fairly common as it seems to be an eclectic mix of revelers and families at any given time. While the non-regulation of places like this is much the basis for their appeal, the reality is that the public at large would benefit from some clearly defined structure.	39	Carbondale	No
217	Soaking, relaxation	Evening, winter	Natural and free	Alcohol use regulations, trash and etiquette information	26	Glenwood Springs	No
218	I stay away b/c the last 3 years it's been over run by people who are noisy and leave trash	i used to go during late afternoon or evening and weekends	It's an amazing special hot pot with epic scenery and brings peace	bigger pools to accomodate the masses, and maybe a dumpster, porta-let.	38	Carbondale	No
219	Never use.	Never.	Scenery. Views of wildlife.	Proximity of pedestrians near highway is dangerous. Sanitation issues must be addressed.	54	Redstone	Yes
220	Soak and River access	Once a year	That it's free and open for everyone.	Parking situation; it gets pretty dangerous. I live in Redstone and people are always running across the highway (or worse, walking).	32	Redstone	Yes
221	Soak	I used to go once a month, but have stopped going due to overcrowding and mess.	the view is gorgeous! There is nothing better than enjoying natural hot springs during a winter snow or summer meteor shower.	- trash, recycle, and dog waste (dog waste bags) containers on site - Port-a-potty to mitigate human waste	30	Carbondale	No
222	soak	afternoon	that its free and there are no signs and no rules etc.	nothing	45	basalt	Yes
223	Soak, go by the river	Most often in the summer and sometimes in the winter	That it still resembles it's natural state	Bigger pockets	29	Carbondale	No
224	soak	2 days per year, afternoons	free	Better parking and walkway to springs	38	Carbondale	No
225	Wildlife, river and scenic viewing	just a couple of times per year - early morning or late afternoon	the non commercial natural feel of the area	repave the parking lot, add some boulders to simulate a barrier at the edge of the parking lot/bank of the river for protection, add appropriate signage about the area/wildlife/stewardship/etc., add bear proof trash containers, install "Scenic Overlook Ahead" signs at appropriate distances to the north and south along Hwy 133.	69	Rural Carbondale on Hwy 133	Yes

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
226	I use the penny hot springs area for climbing access, river access, wildlife viewing, and a nice soak after all these activities	once a week, usually afternoon	I love having such a beautiful natural hot spring so close to home. Generally you meet nice people and enjoy the scenery	My heart breaks when I arrive and it is trashed. I try to pick up after others when I can.	29	Carbondale	No
227	A soak after a hike.	Afternoon, once or twice a year.	That they are semi natural and free.	I would make them deeper	36	Aspen	No
228	Parking to soak	Evening - sparingly	Natural and not enforced	Nothing	37	Carbondale	Yes
229	Soak and river access for kayaking	Few time a month, although it was more 15 years ago. Was more in the evening but now early morning for peaceful experience	Ten view, the natural water, the vibrant ecosystem	Trail access down, etiquette signs; no eating, etc, better parking	37	Swiss Village (grew up in Redstone)	Yes
230	Soak, river access (swimming), parking above to use the springs.	7-10AM, 3-7PM, or 9-11PM generally. I stay for 1-3 hours depending on how crowded it is. I mostly go in the Fall and Spring (1x per week at least). Maybe 5x in the winter. Less than I used to because someone put it in google Maps	The natural springs, free access, nature show, and conversation.	May be worth adding a trash and recycling up above on the parking pull out. I wish people did not blast music from speakers. I don't think it should be a bbq place. Take it off google maps. Right now, locals come to arrange the rocks and pools after the runoff, it changes the layout every year- which is nice and a good public service, but it is not respected by all the tourists who hear about it and leave beer cans, cigarette butts.	30	Carbondale . Moving to a Swiss Village soon.	No
231	Relaxing	Day	That it is not regulated and is free	Nothing	36	Basalt	No
232	Used to visit the springs quite frequently in the 70's, haven't spent a lot of time there lately except to view Bighorn sheep and Elk.	Periodically when wildlife is present.	Natural hot springs and wildlife	Curtail the number of people, have a trash collection method and some rules and regs with a donation box. Improving the access from the highway to the springs would be most helpful.	73	Redstone area	Yes
233	Access to National Forest	Never	The beauty of the specific spot and the idea of a natural hot spring within the waterway	Reduce access	71	Emma	Yes
234	Soaking	Not often and any time of day	ease of access and views	When I was there 2 weeks ago, the water was very high and the river was splashing into the hot springs, which felt good on a hot day. Maybe increasing the size of the pools (if possible). And don't put a sign up. Make people do the research to find it	23	Snowmass	No
235	Years ago I would go several times per week to soak, but more recently there have been too many people for my taste.	None now	The natural beauty and hot water	Improve trail down to pools, put portapotty in parking area, limit number of users at one time	79	Carbondale	No
236	soak	early morning is best, on weekdays, once or twice a week	its a beautiful spot for a calm soak	A caution sign to slow down for traffic going both ways, or a lower speed limit area added for safe traffic movement. Maybe a parking time limit or a courtesy sign for visitors to share the soak, and clean up. It get busy and overcrowded for a tiny place like that.	32	Swiss Village	Yes
237	Soak in hot springs, climbing parking/access, fishing, viewing	Mornings for climbing access afternoons /evenings fro hot springs 6 to 10 times a year, year round	Its a natural hot spring, a rare geologic phenomenon in itself, next to a cold mountain stream with amazing scenery including wildlife. This site invites people into nature in a unique way, literally immersing us in soothing waters.	Parking area can be cleaned up and better defined with paving, curbs and planters with vegetation on roadway. Stairway access to hot springs to improve safety and reduce erosion into the crystal. Signage on the top of river access path regarding LNT, and acceptable use of hot springs, ie glass, etc. Signage in parking area on natural history, wildlife values of the property. Signage NOT down along river or springs. Keep this natural. consider a small restroom/changing structure if there is an appropriate location and design.	57	Basalt	No
238	soak	weekly when the water is good	the unspoiled nature	nothing	47	Glenwood Springs	No
239	Rest & relaxation	Monthly during the day light hours	The view.	Use the rocks we have moved around for the past 35+ years to give it the appearance of a large or several smaller soaking pools	58	Swiss Village	Yes



#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
240	I do not use this area. It is too crowded and visitors leave it very dirty. I stop about once a month to clean garbage.	I drive by twice a day but do not visit.	I love the wildlife in the meadows across from Penny. I feel like Penny is currently over used and trashed. There are times that there are 20+ cars parked there.	More responsible usage. I would prefer visitors respected local traffic and the area. I would prefer if there was less litter and that users respected the area. It is also so full sometimes and users are incredibly unsafe pulling in and out of the parking. I am surprised there hasn't been a major accident. There is also a significant amount of camping at the parking area. This is very unhygienic considering people are swimming in that area.	39	Redstone	Yes
241	I drive by it and have soaked a time or two.	Varies. Try not to go when it's busy.	The wildness of it.	Limit parking/access so there aren't tons of people trashing it.	59	bottom of McClure pass	Yes
242	I park in the parking area to access the river (it's a great swimming hole!) and soak in the hot springs.	I visit the springs maybe once every other month, usually in the evenings. I used to visit closer to once a week, during the day, when my work schedule allowed it.	I love the access to the river from the springs. No other hot springs in the area have that. I used to love the relative emptiness and quietness of it, but it seems those days are over. It is also nice that they are free, for those times I am strapped on cash and can't afford a trip to Avalanche Ranch.	The slope leading down to the springs can be dangerous, especially in the winter. Maybe a railing would help. A posting of some rules might be nice, encouraging people to be quiet at night especially, and guidelines on how to and how not to move the rocks to build better pools.	25	Carbondale	No
243	soak	mid morning, early afternoon, late afternoon. Until about 7pm.	Open, local people, Can bring our own drinks, food or music. We are free to re-arrange stones to temper water as we like.	Parking. Better trail to walk down to water, maybe rail to hang towels. The little pools are usually big enough for the amount of people. I haven't really felt crowded there.	31	Snowmass Village	No
244	I don't use it.	Never	It is beautiful.	Sanitation management so that I do not have to witness people defecating on the side of the road while driving by.	34	Crystal Valley	Yes
245	Wildlife and Botanical viewing	Almost every day when I am in the area full time, same when I'm passing thru.	The river, hot springs and easterly terrain provide a natural barrier to keep humans from running. Hopefully, the BOCC will have the wisdom to prevent OS&T screwing it up.	The parking is dangerous, being on the outside of an uphill, blind curve, and below a rock fall area. I'd ask CDOT to mitigate the rockfall like they do in GW Canyon and the foothills west of Denver. I'd add adequate bear proof refuse containers and contract a local hauler that services the mountain residences to keep it clean, post the area with "up up to \$1,000 for littering, camera enforced" and publicize anyone fined. I'm a dog lover, but I would also post fines for dogs in the river at the springs area, and impound dogs in the meadow.	72	Redstone & Chicago	No
246	SOAK	2 times per year, morning	No cost, easy access and it's natural setting	cleanliness. better trash disposal access and perhaps a bathroom onsite	51	Woody Creek	No
247	My husband and I use this are both for soaking and access to climbing.	In the last year (or more), we have rarely used this area. Unfortunately, with the mass usage and partying going on, it's not something we want to be around.	It's beautiful, it's free, it's a little hidden gem, and it's the pools are constantly changing (which can be fun and frustrating at the same time).	This area has become increasingly unsafe. I never know what inebriated person is going to pull out in front of me on the highway -- so safety is a huge issue. In the last couple of years, on the rare occasion that we would go to Penny to soak (usually early in the morning around 6 am to avoid crowds), we always take some large black trash bags and fill at least one bag, but sometimes another. So, I would love to see an improvement in the trash situation. Also, there is not a good option for people to use the bathroom while there; therefore, it is reasonable to believe that people are defecating way too close to the river -- would LOVE to see that improve. I know it's a tall order, but I would really love to see users respect this area and the residents who live here.	34	Redstone, Colorado	Yes
248	wildlife viewing-parking-access to national forest-drive by	morning- evening by weekly	its free and open	port a johns		crystal river valley - redstone	Yes
249	I don't go there any more because it is overcrowded.		Seeing the wildlife across the river in Filoha meadows	The parking area needs to be revamped so it is safer.	50	Marble	No
250	occasionally	1	I love to see people using this free hot springs by the river.	not clear, parking could be better & there may be some rationale for outhouse facilities -- tho I think the issue of fecal contamination is overblown.	81	Redstone	Yes

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
251	Relaxing	Weekly	The views	Closing access and putting back to its natural state. It's overrun with trash and drug use	54	Redstone	Yes
252	I used to use the spot for a soak and river access, but haven't for the past few years due to the unsafe conditions and over crowding. I also live nearby and pass through daily.	I rarely stop anymore, I used to use it twice a month. I pass by there on my daily commute and sometimes several times a day.	It is very scenic! It used to be nice to see so much wildlife, but they are scarcer these days due to the over use. I also really like the public access to natural hot springs.	Safety, accessibility, cleanliness, waste (human and trash), signage for the hwy, clear instructions on how to park to maximize the parking area in a safe way. Trailhead information and routine oversight by OS&T or USFS. Prohibit overnight camping. Overall this area is being loved to death and needs a comprehensive management plan. It would also be nice to have restrooms/pit toilets, ADA compliant access for mobility impaired folks, and an emergency phone/call box since there's no cell service there.	41	Redstone area	Yes
253	Wildlife viewing.	I drive by PHS twice a day on my way to work. Occasionally, I stop if there is wildlife to view.	the wildlife. (there's a theme here)	Overuse. Sometimes the parking area is trashed out. I often count the cars there - many times over a dozen.	58	Redstone	Yes
254	Soak	5 times a year- try for weekday mornings	Hot springs of course	Garbage	38	Redstone	Yes
255	climbing access, soaking	a couple times a year	the big horn sheep!		37	Aspen	No
256	We have taken friends and family visiting to the hot springs to see it, soak in hot springs, or just check it out.	Not often - so many people	It's open and free for all to enjoy	put in portable toilets, trash bins	65	in Redstone for past 13 years	Yes
257	Soak	A couple times a year, morning, afternoon, evening	Free and natural. That people take it upon themselves to care for and construct the pools.	The trail down to the pools. Educational signage encouraging trash in trash out. But keep it funky and natural as so little in this world is left in peace as it's mean for so many years.	48	Carbondale	No
258	wildlife viewing, occasional soak	mornings - a few times a year for wildlife viewing soak - very seldom, but afternoons when I do	wildlife	toilets, trash bins	65	Marble	No
259	Never	Never	The area is a vital core of wildlife and plant diversity and deserves to be sanitary from human waste and the riparian and riverine not infected by uncontrolled human incursion.	Provide sanitary facilities for dealing with human waste and urine.	70	Avalanche Creek	Yes
260	The hot water is good for my aging aches.	A few times per month as able.	It is still pretty much undeveloped.	Attention to trash and toilet waste abuse. Safety re: parking, sanitation, use limits.	81	Crystal River Country Estates	Yes
261	I drive by it.	A few times a year and the times vary.	It is natural and inconspicuous.	Nothing. Keep it in Roy Rickus' style.	64	Crystal River Country Estates ( I am not pompous like the subdivision name is).	Yes
262	I park and soak in the small pool.	Typically 1-2 times per week afternoons if I am working in the area; otherwise, 1-2 times per month on weekends.	The heat on my sore muscles and meeting some of the visitors.	Make it more user friendly - easier trail down with larger/deeper pools.	62	Carbondale	No
263	Soaked once in 45 years. Once	Soaked once in 45 years at 3 pm	Scenic beauty in the fall.	Restrooms. Improve the path. Ban alcohol consumption.	Ove r 60	Highway 133 south of Redstone	Yes

#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
264	Soak only	Evening	Natural setting & few people	Keep clothing optional w/ signage to allow choice	70	Crystal valley	Yes
265	To soak with my family	Not too much because it's always so full of people	That it is around the corner!	Some people aren't clothed and I can't take my child.	42	Redstone	Yes
266	Wildlife viewing. It's a very special place.	3 times a month. Late afternoon	The fact that it is a gathering place for Big Horn Sheep and Elk	I would restrict the times available for usage.	69	Redstone	Yes
267	soak/climbing access	somewhat rarely and in the evening	its simple and natural, no costs or forms or rules or any other unnecessary stuff	maybe volunteer maintenance? nothing that changes the feel or ease of use	20	stationed in NC, home address in glenwood springs	Yes
268	Soaking, parking for climbing at the Narrows, wildlife viewing.	To soak, I usually go early in the morning, throughout the winter.	the hot springs! I have been going there my whole life and find it to be a magical spot.	I am a bit of a grouchy local...fewer drunk people, less garbage.	39	Carbondale	No
269	to view wildlife if in the area, rarely for soaking as it's too crowded	once in a great while	The wide open spaces all around you (except the road of course), room for wildlife and ecosystem processes less impacted by human activities and enjoyed from the river	Install a bathroom; keep parking to a minimum in order to help limit access	59	Carbondale	No
270	Hot springs soak	Maybe once a month when it's available. Generally I'm the evening.	It's natural, people are friendly, people can be themselves without judgement.	Maybe bring the hydro engineers in from boulder to make it a little more consistent.	34	Aspen	No
271	Soak, rock climbing	In the afternoon or nights	That people tend to look after the place with little to no oversight.	Making the pools deeper by bringing in bigger rocks. Trash can on sight so people can through away there trash.	30	Aspen village	No
272	soak, river access, wildlife viewing	monthly during commuting	Wildlife viewing	parking congestion, trash left by users, highway user interaction with people attempting to park or leave parking	43	between Marble and Redstone	No
273	I used to use it to soak and climb before it got so crowded. I rarely go now.	Seldom, but used to go maybe 4 times a year. Usually in the afternoon/evening	natural, free hot springs where you can see wildlife	Safer parking, somehow go back in time and not publish it.	36	carbondale	No
274	Soak with out of town guests, park to climb	Used to be 1-3 x per month. Lee's lately	I love the Natural aspects of penny. I love being able to soak right in the river	more defined pools so you don't burn and freeze. Trash/recycle cans at parking	37	Carbonate	No
275	Mostly biking but also River and climbing access. Have used the springs but they are quite busy these days.	mornings or evenings	unique biology, geography and wildlife.	Reduce usage of the hot springs... probably not doable.	66	Snowmass Village	Yes
276	Soak	1-2 times per week in the winter prior to spring runoff. Prefer early morning before the crowds.	The serenity of soaking with very few other people around and seeing the Big Horn Sheep.	Add a permanent restroom...one that cannot be vandalized and thrown in the river as has happened in the past. Would like to see the path down to the springs maintained a little better.	64	Glenwood Springs	No
277	Soak	a couple times a year in the evening or at night	that it is not regulated	nothing	38	Basalt	No
278	We don't any more		That it is protected		60+	Redstone	Yes
279	Soak and parking for soak	2/year I like early mornings when quiet or afternoon evening if I'm feeling more social	The naturalness of the soaking pools being in and on the river, not built up and free for all our ppl. I also love how they are always changing from year to year with high water.	A bathroom on site I think would be very important for all, better signage about cleaning up after yourself and your pet, maybe no dogs (I think it is so gross when ppl bring their dogs into the pools and let them soak), a trash can, signage about no glass containers in or around the pools, educational signs about leave no trace etcetera.	34	Aspen	No
280	Soak	maybe 2 times per year	The view and the waters	maybe the trail from parking to the springs	50	Carbondale	No
281	Used to soak, now it's too busy. Primarily stop now to view wildlife	I drive several times per week (I commute from marble)	Frequent wildlife sightings	Clearly define and designate parking spots	35	Marble	No



#	How do you use the Penny Hot Springs Area?	How often and what times of day do you visit the Penny Hot Springs Area?	What do you love most about the Penny Hot Springs area?	What would you change or improve about the Penny Hot Springs area?	Age	Where do you live?	PC resident in the CV*
282	Sometimes I soak but usually its too crowded	Not very often. Three times in the 5 years I have lived at Swiss Village	I don't love it. Its always crowded and smelly.	I would change the parking to a different location. It impedes traffic and can really cause issues	30	Swiss Village	Yes
283	use it to soak in the hot springs	once every month or so usually on a saturday	that it is right on the river and somewhat secluded	it is tough to control the temperature so you are constantly moving around rocks to get the right amount of hot and cold water	30	carbondale	No
284	All of the above	Weekdays, early in the morning or at night, or during the day, depends on how crowded it is.	everything	Nothing	27	Swiss Village	Yes
285	Wildlife viewing	Varies	Beauty	Less trash	71	Redstone	No
286	Never, other than communing by the area as a Crystal Valley resident.	Every day as a resident of the Crystal Valley, usually 5:30 am and 5:00 pm.	I love the remoteness o the area and I love that it is available to people	The overuse of the area and the lack of accountability people are a real problem of the last few years. I in no way want to prevent people from using the area, I just would like a little more oversight.	41	Redstone	Yes
287	Soak	Not often. Once per year.	Rustic. Not developed.	Probably need a restroom. Improve the roadside parking but try to leave it as simple as possible. Do not "urbanize" them please!	64	Carbondale	No
288	45 minute soak	Weekdays morning or late afternoon	Natural and undeveloped	Easier access and distribution of hot water throughout pools	57	Carbondale	No
289	Soak	Usually afternoons, times vary	It's beautiful	Keep as is	75	Aspen	No
290	Soak	Approximately twenty-four (24) times per year in the early evening	It is absolutely beautiful	Nothing. Please keep it as raw as it currently is. Please do not manicure this area.	59	Carbondale	No
291	Soak	Year round. Afternoon/evening.	Beautiful, easy access, undeveloped		46	Carbondale	No
292	soak and climbing parking	nighttime, winter, very rarely,	Free access, adventure, views	clean up trash and have recycling options	56	carbondale	No

## Appendix 2: Public Safety Call Data

### Public Safety Call Data - 2009 through 2019

#### LOCATION:

13800 HWY 133; Penny Hot Springs

#### CALL NATURE DEFINITIONS:

Mutual Aid - One agency call for another agency to help

REDDI - Report every drunk driver immediately

Extra Patrol - deputy swings though trying to be visible in the area and does not find anything suspicious

Overdue - person has not returned home yet

Trespass - Item stolen from vehicle

Date	Time	Nature	Additional details
<b>2009 (1 call)</b>			
12/30/09	23:46	SUSPICIOUS	Creeper
<b>2010 (6 calls)</b>			
01/07/10	20:02	UNATTENDED VEHICLE	Drunk person
01/24/10	19:31	LOST PROPERTY	
06/06/10	14:45	MUTUAL AID	Unknown
07/06/10	18:07	THEFT	Climbing gear taken
07/20/10	21:16	SUSPICIOUS	Old car
11/02/10	18:33	FOUND PROPERTY	Clothing left behind
<b>2011 (2 calls)</b>			
08/19/11	17:56	INDECENT EXPOSURE	
11/23/11	08:27	CITIZEN ASSISTANCE	
<b>2012 (4 calls)</b>			
04/15/12	13:26	UNATTENDED VEHICLE	
05/10/12	08:05	CITIZEN ASSISTANCE	
06/14/12	20:05	TRESPASS	Purse Stolen
07/12/12	20:02	REDDI	Reporting party was concerned about large group of people drinking heavily, Deputy found sober people
<b>2013 (4 calls)</b>			
02/23/13	02:15	THEFT	Stolen dog
04/18/13	14:18	MUTUAL AID	
10/02/13	23:46	SUSPICIOUS	Vehicle vandalism
11/24/13	21:20	SLEEPER	Camping at lot
<b>2014 (11 calls)</b>			
01/25/14	15:25	REDDI	3 people drinking in the parking lot
02/08/14	22:55	INTOXICATED PER	Drunk person
02/16/14	22:05	REDDI	2 drunk people (same as last week)
02/22/14	01:07	EXTRA PATROL	No issues
03/31/14	15:22	MEDICAL	Issue at hot springs
07/19/14	15:18	HARASSMENT	Issue at hot springs
07/23/14	11:27	MEDICAL	Slipped down the hill, injured
07/25/14	10:49	TRESPASS	Items stolen from car
07/25/14	16:32	MOTORIST ASSIST	Someone locked out of running car
07/25/14	20:54	EXTRA PATROL	No issues
09/29/14	11:19	LOST PROPERTY	Lost a wedding ring

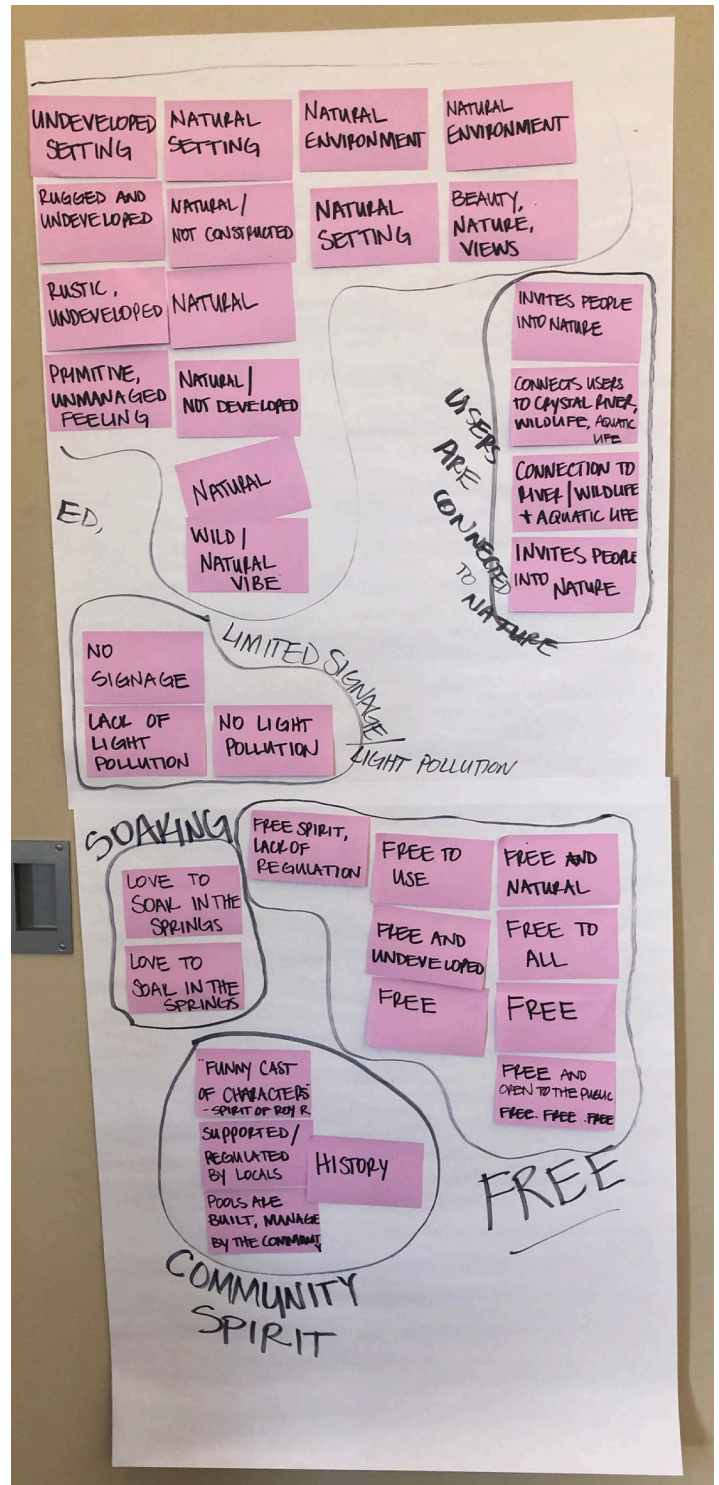
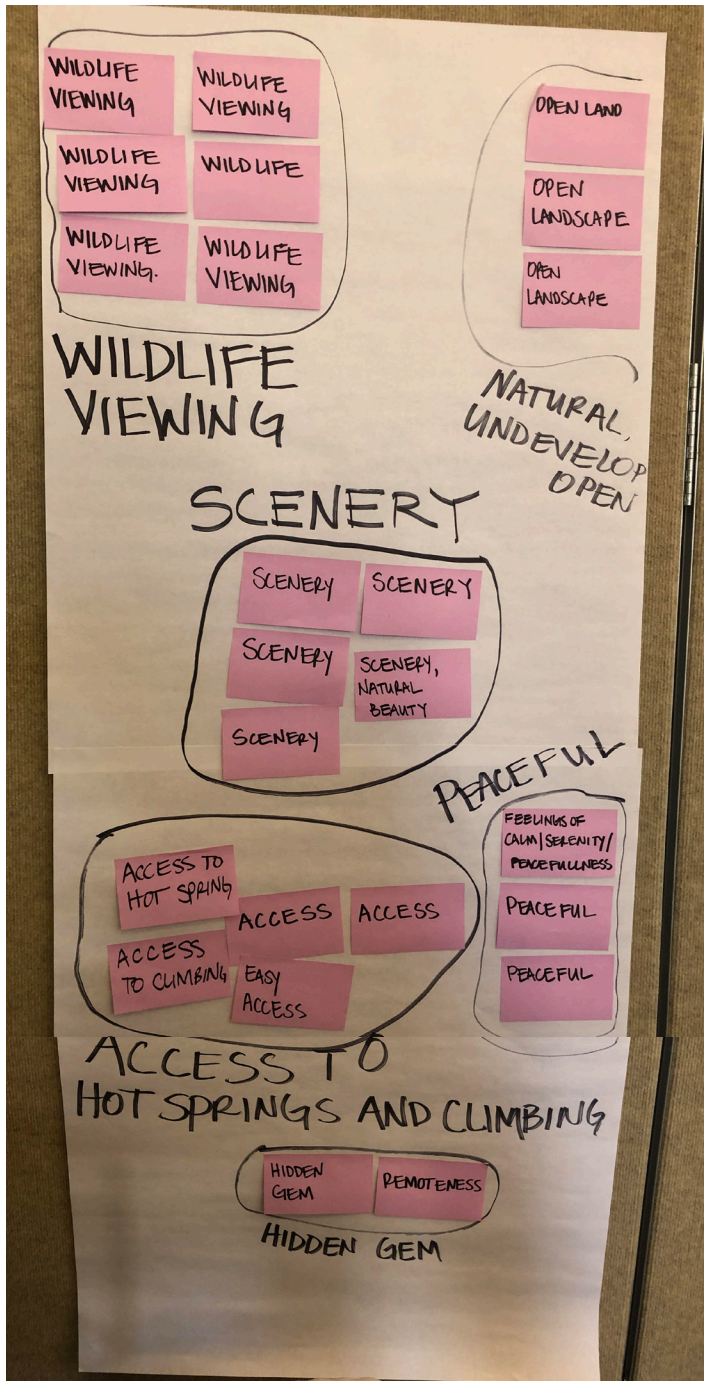
Date	Time	Nature	Additional details
<b>2015 (10 call:</b>			
01/14/15	22:57	FIREWORKS	Fireworks set off in parking lot
08/31/15	12:23	THEFT	Stuff stolen at Penny
09/24/15	20:53	TRESPASS	Camping at Penny and shooting at elk
09/28/15	02:06	MOTORIST ASSIST	Locked out at Penny
10/07/15	09:47	MOTORIST ASSIST	
10/17/15	09:10	SUSPICIOUS	Unstable person
11/13/15	16:25	HIT&RUN ACCIDEN	Car hit at penny
12/26/15	10:18	DISABLED VEH	Car stuck at pullout
12/27/15	20:29	FOUND PROPERTY	Ski pants found
12/30/15	11:44	LOST PROPERTY	Lost gun
<b>2016 (16 call:</b>			
01/08/16	12:20	FOLLOW UP	Concerned about sleepers
01/09/16	04:29	SLEEPER	Another sleeper
01/22/16	09:17	PARKING	Two vehicles have been parked for two nights
03/03/16	23:11	LOST PROPERTY	Lost personal item
03/12/16	09:47	REDDI	Throwing bottles across the river
03/14/16	12:52	EXTRA PATROL	Complaint call about littering, exposure, etc
03/19/16	21:36	ANIMAL CMLNT	Complaint about animal abuse at hot springs
03/30/16	14:10	THEFT	Personal items stolen
04/06/16	10:04	SLEEPER	Two or three vehicles set up a teepee
04/13/16	09:45	CODE VIOLATION	Another set of illegal campers (in bushes along the river)
08/01/16	17:46	LITTERING	
08/26/16	22:56	ASSAULT	Happened at penny
09/22/16	10:56	INDECENT EXPOSU	Person was naked, partying and urinated close by reporting party
10/24/16	15:18	FOLLOW UP	Lost item
10/31/16	13:27	LOST PROPERTY	Lost item/potentially stolen
11/14/16	07:25	LOST PROPERTY	Lost item
<b>2017 (24 call:</b>			
01/23/17	12:20	EXTRA PATROL	Complaint about campers, none found
02/04/17	13:10	SLEEPER	Complaint about campers
02/05/17	02:44	MEDICAL	Related to drinking at Penny
02/06/17	08:51	FOLLOW UP	Unknown
02/06/17	14:52	SLEEPER	Report of campers
02/10/17	18:21	FOLLOW UP	Campers at penny contacted
02/18/17	10:42	MENACING	Possible drunk harassing people
02/28/17	10:42	THEFT	Things stolen at Penny
03/13/17	23:22	SLEEPER	Drinking and then slept at the hot springs
07/16/17	16:30	LOST PROPERTY	Lost item at penny
07/16/17	17:48	LOST PROPERTY	Lost item penny
07/26/17	22:43	EXTRA PATROL	
08/06/17	12:09	SUSPICIOUS	Creeper
08/13/17	17:20	MOTORIST ASSIST	Locked keys in car
09/10/17	01:06	SLEEPER	Extra patrol checking for campers
09/16/17	21:57	SLEEPER	Extra patrol checking for campers
11/17/17	00:18	SLEEPER	
11/17/17	00:25	EXTRA PATROL	Extra patrol checking for campers
11/19/17	01:00	PERSON STOP	Creeper
11/24/17	00:42	EXTRA PATROL	
11/26/17	00:56	EXTRA PATROL	
12/07/17	01:25	EXTRA PATROL	
12/18/17	17:01	LOST PROPERTY	Lost item at penny
12/28/17	01:22	EXTRA PATROL	



Date	Time	Nature	Additional details
<b>2018 (23 calls)</b>			
01/31/18	00:50	FOUND PROPERTY	Someone accidentally took some one else's car keys
03/01/18	21:14	EXTRA PATROL	
03/09/18	07:39	EXTRA PATROL	
04/07/18	07:26	SLEEPER	At penny with a tent
04/07/18	08:58	LITTERING	People in the hot springs, officer initiated
04/12/18	07:30	SLEEPER	Kicked out a car sleeper
06/21/18	17:48	HARASSMENT	Aggressive individual (acting in a suspicious way)
06/27/18	07:17	SLEEPER	Sleeper reported
07/04/18	17:56	EXTRA PATROL	
07/16/18	12:51	MEDICAL	Some one fell and hit their head, fell down from the road
07/18/18	07:02	SLEEPER	
08/01/18	07:53	SLEEPER	Two sleepers found at Penny
08/19/18	07:19	FOLLOW UP	
08/27/18	01:04	SLEEPER	Made contact with a sleeper
09/07/18	12:03	SLEEPER	Called in
09/21/18	09:58	SUSPICIOUS	Creeper
09/27/18	20:55	SUSPICIOUS	Creeper
09/28/18	20:30	SUSPICIOUS	Harassment
09/29/18	16:44	HARASSMENT	Harassment (second day, guy contacted previous day as well)
10/27/18	14:19	SLEEPER	Tents by the river
11/06/18	10:23	EXTRA PATROL	
11/10/18	13:24	EXTRA PATROL	
11/21/18	09:35	EXTRA PATROL	
<b>2019 - through June 2019 (15 calls)</b>			
01/07/19	11:12	EXTRA PATROL	
01/23/19	16:07	CITIZEN ASSIST	
01/26/19	12:56	FOLLOW UP	
02/12/19	13:53	EXTRA PATROL	
02/13/19	07:22	EXTRA PATROL	
02/25/19	16:12	CODE VIOLATION	Transient camp, not used this winter
03/06/19	08:14	EXTRA PATROL	
03/12/19	16:35	EXTRA PATROL	
03/28/19	23:48	EXTRA PATROL	
04/07/19	08:32	EXTRA PATROL	
04/25/19	21:06	UNATTENDED VEH	
04/29/19	12:23	ANIMAL CMLNT	leash law violation
05/15/19	12:20	EXTRA PATROL	
06/05/19	08:01	CITIZEN ASSIST	
06/09/19	13:23	EXTRA PATROL	

## Appendix 3: Steering Committee Worksheets

Qualities of the Penny Hot Springs area people love:





## Concerns and Strategies Brainstorming:

**Green Sticky Notes:**

- SANITATION
- SANITATION
- SANITATION
- HUMAN WASTE
- LACK OF BATHROOMS
- HUMAN WASTE
- HUMAN WASTE
- POOR SANITATION
- LACK OF RESTROOMS
- SANITATION TRASH + TOILETS
- LACK OF CLEANLINESS
- LACK OF RESTROOMS

**Yellow Sticky Notes:**

- Install rest room facilities (compost abk.)
- Toilets
- BATHROOM SANITATION
- RESTROOM NEAR BUT NOT AT SPRING
- No toilet
- PIT TOILET
- Porta-Potties
- Permanent Pit
- CXT (Vault)
- No camping
- No overnight parking
- No Dogs
- LNT
- Lease from CDOT
- ACQUIRE PROPERTY

**Handwritten Notes:**

SANITATION

- \*NT No Camping
- CXT WOULD NOT MEET CODE
- Evaluate nearby options

CONCERN

- Build it they would come
- Attracting more people

SIGNS - respect the natural aesthetic

- MORE LIKE INTERPRETIVE SIGN - ANGELED
- w/ HISTORY/WILDLIFE
- possibly on potty shelter
- sign to identify route

**Green Sticky Notes:**

- TRAFFIC SAFETY ISSUES
- PARKING
- HIGHWAY SAFETY
- TRAFFIC HAZARDS
- SAFER PARKING LOT (EDGE DROP, DARK)
- HIGHWAY ACCESS
- TRAFFIC SAFETY FROM HIGHWAY
- PARKING SAFETY
- TRAFFIC ISSUES
- HIGHWAY SAFETY

**Yellow Sticky Notes:**

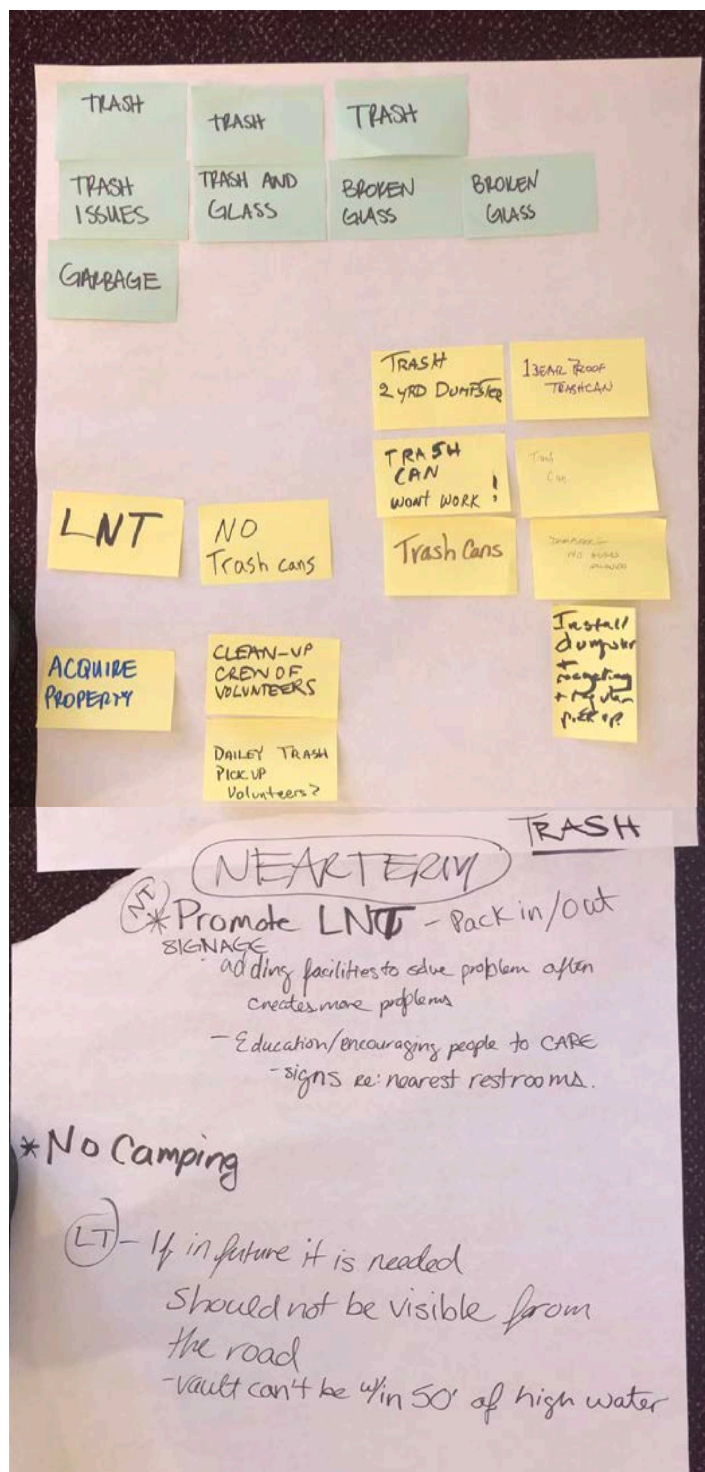
- Purchase Hot Springs Ranch
- Limit entrance + exit points (No passing No sign)
- SLOW ZONE
- Reduce speed along Penny stretch
- Define Access
- Pedestrian X-ing sign
- Light BLINKING
- Close parking lot except for one entrance
- TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT - REDUCE SPEED - SIGNAGE
- Signage
- Sign above + below pit to reduce speed w/ parking + entry + exit
- low light Street light
- NO PV OR BUS PARKING
- HIGHWAY SIGNAGE/ LIMIT PARKING
- ACQUIRE PROPERTY
- Drinking Driving

**Handwritten Notes:**

WORK w/CDOT/Partners on HWY SAFETY

- \* No passing in either direction
- Lower speed? (CAN BE DISCUSSED)
- Warning signage?
- Defined entrance + exit points w/ some type of barrier - berm? veg?
- VEHICULAR SEPARATION
- NOT VISUALLY IMPEDING







SAFE ACCESS    LACK OF SAFE ACCESS TO RIVER / POOL    UNSAFE STAIRS    SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TRAIL    SAFE ACCESS TO SPRINGS

MASSIVE STONE STAIRS    Install stone steps.    POOR TRAIL ACCESS TO SPRINGS    RIVER ACCESS

Signage one route TRAIL    IMPROVE TRAIL    DEFINE PARKING

ACQUIRE PROPERTY    ACCESS TRAIL WITH HAND RAIL    ROCK STAIRS HAND RAIL    Lease from CDOT

Plant riparian vegetation to stabilize bank.    Guard rail along bank

Install stone steps, logs in rock bank.    RIP RAP    BUILD ROCK STAIRWAY

DRAINAGE DITCH FOR PLOT H2O    BUILD TRAIL    ACQUIRE PROPERTY

Lease from CDOT

Well developed & maintained trail

Sustainable/durable trail

NEAR

- Sustainable path
  - high water, flooding
  - natural materials
- STABLE FOOTING
- ONE PATH DOWN
- HAND RAIL ON SLOPE SIDE
- REVEG REMAINDER OF BANK
- better grade
- Address edge of paving (last repaved in 2016)
- HRSB

LONG

OVERUSE    CROWDING    CLIMBING    TOO MANY PEOPLE

SOCIAL MEDIA = OVERUSE

Limit Parking    Limit Capacity    LIMIT # OF PEOPLE AT ANY ONE TIME TO 25!

Reduce/limit parking.    OVERUSE UNIT PARKING    KEEP PARKING LIMITED

Lease from CDOT    ACQUIRE PROPERTY    LIMIT PARKING CAPACITY    Develop New Parking for Climbers

WALK IN ACCESS - CLOSE PARKING

No Amenities    Subtle Online Presence    Re-name it    Pirahnas

LOOK AT ALT.

OVERUSE carrying capacity

PARKING

- ORGANIZE - ~~TO~~
  - SPOTS
  - LINES
  - ADA
- DEFINE ENTRANCE/EXIT
  - oversize parking vehicle
- Encourage time limits
  - eg. 2 hours
  - for a few spots
- Established hours?

Hot Springs

- FAMILIES @ WATER
- WILDLIFE VIEWING
- CLIMBING
- Narrow (Avocado Stalk)
- HOT SPRINGS
- CAMPERS
- Find Better Parking for Climbing
  - better access/safer from N. parking
  - Max 16-20 people
  - 4-6 cars
- Social/Online permission
- can we remove it?
- CDOT Lease
- Guidelines for use



DOG ISSUES      DOG WASTE

No DOGS      NO DOGS      No dogs in Hot Springs

SIGNAGE "LEAVE YOUR PUP"      No Dogs      no 3446

DOGS NO DOGS      NO DOGS      NO Dogs

**\*No Dogs**

→ ENFORCE current fees.

ILLEGAL CAMPING      CAMPING      OVERNIGHT PARKING/CAMPING

Prohibit private camp.      NO CAMPING SIGNAGE      CAMPING NO CAMPING SLEEPER FORWARDS FORWARDS

Signage + Enforcement      Lease from CAOT

ACQUIRE PROPERTY      SIGNAGE

— multiple nights  
Challenge = impact on natural resources  
 — transient issue

**NO CAMPING REG**  
 — allows discretion for cases of sleepy drivers / people who've been drinking

**NO AMPLIFIED MUSIC (noise code)**  
**NO GLASS**

**BE RESPECTFUL** — HOME — engage the user in common purpose

**SIGNS** — pictures or bilingual

pairing of history/special area w/ the rules.

— EMPOWERS OTHER USERS.

— target both visitors + locals.

ONLINE PRESENCE      SOCIAL MEDIA / WEB      REMOVE SOCIAL MEDIA / MARKET EFFORTS

Remove all online mentions

MANAGE FOR USE

COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

NO GLASS

No glass rule

Encourage ethic of promotion / responsible use.



# CONCERNS LIST

NEAR TERM

LONG TERM

NO CELL  
SERVICE  
= SAFETY ISSUE

ALL PREP  
FOR JUNE

June 20

ONLINE  
PRESENT  
SOCIAL M  
WEB  
REMOVE  
MEDIA/M  
EPT

COMMUNICA  
STRATEGY

CDOT  
LEASE/PERMIT

- PARKING.
- Port-a-potty w/structure  
(trial basis)  
- understand state statute
- Enforcement

AQUISITION:

~~(LONG TERM)~~

- BATHROOMS - CHANGING ROOM
  - PARKING - WILDLIFE VIEWING.
  - HOUSING/HANGERS.
  - TRASH - ADA
- 
- DONATIONS / FEE SYSTEM.
  - PARTNERSHIPS
    - HEALTHY RIVERS
    - CPW
    - LANDTRUST

En



## Vision Statement Partner Activity:

1

a vision to protect and preserve the natural ENVIRON while providing a safe and enjoyable (unspoiled) experience.

To promote and inspire a sustainable ethic of LNT and of appreciation of Nature.

Philly  
Penny  
Spring  
LNT  
Ethic  
Education  
of Users  
River instead

2

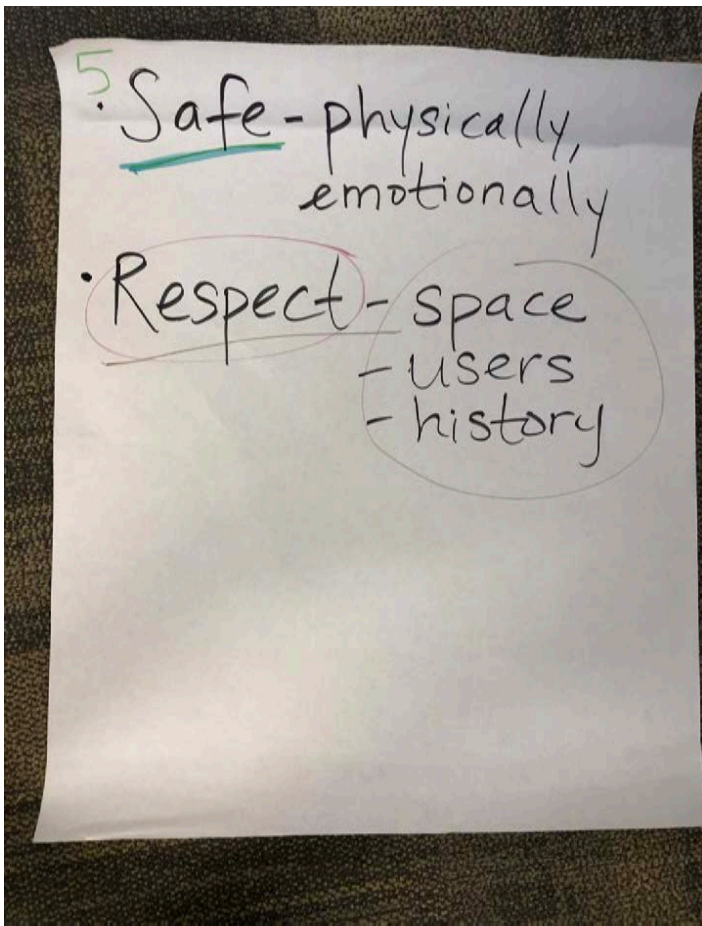
Maintain current PRIMITIVE, NATURAL AND UNDEVELOPED SETTING while IMPROVING PARKING LIMITATIONS ENABLING SAFE SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TO THE POOLS; CREATE PROPER TRASH & WASTE DISPOSAL + EDUCATE USERS TO RESPECT RIVER + EACH OTHER & WILDLIFE

3

To Keep Penny Hot Springs as natural as possible to encourage the public's connection with the natural environment of the river through use of this unusual river resource, while protecting and preserving the Springs from overuse and degradation through conscious, proactive stewardship by land management managers and users alike.

4

THE VISION FOR PENNY HOT SPRINGS IS THE PROTECTION OF A <sup>natural</sup> UNDEVELOPED RESOURCE THAT IS SAFE FOR USERS, TRAFFIC, AND WILDLIFE - AND THAT IS ALSO SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE FOR THE RIPARIAN HABITAT.



**Collective Vision Statement:**

*To protect and preserve the natural environment and future use of Penny Hot Springs in a safe and environmentally sustainable manner that is compatible with the location's natural setting and that encourages respect and stewardship.*